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B

An den Leser.

Das Bedürfniß, mit der Englischen Sprache und Literatur genauer bekannt zu seyn, wird seit der Herstellung des Europäischen Friedens und des daraus erfolgten freien Verkehrs der Völker, in Deutschland immer mehr gefühlt.

Allein so sehr auch die schnelle Communication, welche besonders die Dampfschifffahrt zwischen diesen beiden Ländern bewerkstelliget hat, es den Deutschen Lesern möglich macht, jedes Erzeugniß im Gebiete der Englischen Literatur fast zur selben Zeit, als es dem Englischen Publikum dargeboten wird, zu benutzen, so sind doch besonders diejenigen von den Lesern, welche sich nicht alle Werke dieser Literatur anschaffen können oder

solche zu lesen nicht Zeit genug haben, immer in Verlegenheit, welchen Schriften sie den Vorzug geben sollten, um dadurch zu einer gründlichen Kenntniß der Englischen Sprache zu gelangen, um eine umfassende Ansicht dieser Literatur, sowie eine klare Einsicht in der eigenthümlichen Denk- und Empfindungsweise dieses Volkes sich zu verschaffen.

Daß die in Deutschland im Drucke erschienenen Lesebücher diesem Bedürfnisse kein Genüge leisten, bedarf kaum einer Erwähnung. Der gänzliche Mangel an Plan, umfassender Mannichfaltigkeit und Einheit des Ganzen, welcher sich in allen diesen Büchern kund thut, verräth nur zu sehr, daß sie von Allem nicht einmal Etwas, von Jedem aber nichts Vollständiges enthalten.

In der Absicht, dem Deutschen Publikum in erwähnter Beziehung möglichst nützen zu können, habe ich mich der nicht wenig mühsamen Arbeit unterzogen, eine Englische Bibliothek, welche eine Auswahl aus den vorzüglichsten Schriftstellern dieser Nation enthalten, und die sämmtlichen Zweige der Literatur in

sich vereinigen soll, zu verfassen, und in aufeinander folgenden Lieferungen im Drucke erscheinen zu lassen, und zwar so, daß jede Lieferung ein abgeschlossenes Ganzes an und für sich selbst dem Leser darbieten werde.

Es sey mir erlaubt, den Plan, den ich bey der Bearbeitung dieser Bibliothek mir vorgenommen habe, etwas mehr zu entwickeln, um das geehrte Publikum in den Stand zu setzen, über das Unternehmen genau urtheilen zu können.

Ausser der Abtheilung, welche für eine Auswahl von dichterischen Erzählungen bestimmt ist, wovon vorliegendes Bändchen den Anfang bildet, und über deren Werth in Bezug auf Feinheit der Sprache, Geist der Erzählung und Sittlichkeit der Tendenz der Leser aus diesem zu beurtheilen im Stande seyn wird: ist die zweite Abtheilung der Bibliothek für eine Auswahl von humoristischen Briefen über interessante Gegenstände des Lebens, und für die Beschreibung von originellen Charakteren bestimmt. Diese werden in alphabetischer Reihenfolge geordnet seyn, und auch ein abgeschlossenes Ganzes in sich bilden. Die Briefe werden besonders durch Eleganz des Sty-

les, Originalität der Ansichten und Feinheit des Witzes den ungetheilten Beifall des Lesers sich erwerben.

Die dritte Abtheilung ist für eine Auswahl von Aufsätzen über verschiedene Handlungen des Privat- und Zustände des gesellschaftlichen Lebens bestimmt. Diese Abhandlungen werden ebenfalls in alphabetischer Ordnung gereihet seyn, und werden auf diese Weise eine Art von Cyklopädia der Philosophie des Lebens darstellen, wie dieses Letztere besonders von den originellsten Denkern uud berühmtesten Weltweisen dieser Nation aufgefaßt worden ist.

Viertens wird die Englische Bibliothek eine Auswahl von öffentlichen Reden, die zu verschiedenen Zeitperioden von berühmten Rednern in den beiden Häusern des Parlaments, vor den Gerichtshöfen und auf der Kanzel gehalten wurden, enthalten.

Fünftens eine Auswahl von kurzen und inhaltreichen Charakterschilderungen der berühmtesten Monarchen, Staatsmänner und der Weltweisen, die am allermeisten zur Entwickelung und Gedeihen des politischen und moralischen Zustandes Englands beigetragen haben.

Sechstens wird eine Sammlung von dramatischen Werken folgen, welche eine Auswahl von den berühmtesten Trauerspielen des unsterblichen Shakespeares, redigirt und mit nöthigen Anmerkungen versehen, nebst solchen der volksthümlichsten Schau- und Lustspiele berühmter Dichter neuerer Zeit, enthalten wird. Von letzteren werden besonders solche gewählt seyn, die durch ihren Inhalt am vorzüglichsten geeignet sind, dem Deutschen Leser eine richtige und klare Anschauung der Empfindungen, Leidenschaften und moralischen Kraftäußerung der Individuen des Englischen Volkes zu verschaffen.

In der siebenten und letzten Abtheilung der Englischen Bibliothek wird eine möglichst vollständige und originelle Auswahl von kurzen, gereimten Gedichten aus allen bekannten und ausgezeichneten Dichtern, mit Shakespeare anfangend bis auf die noch jetzt lebenden, dem Leser vorgelegt werden.

Schlüßlich bitte ich noch in Bezug des Planes dieser literarischen Unternehmung zu bemerken, daß, obwohl deren umfassende Natur eine noch weit größere Anzahl von Bänden zuläßt, es

für jetzt meine Absicht sey, diese ungefähr auf zwölf zu beschränken, von welchen ein jeder Band wenigstens dieselbe Bogenzahl und Form enthalten soll und um denselben Preis als dieser Band zu haben seyn wird.

In Betreff meiner selbst bemerke ich hier dem verehrten Leser und Rezensenten, falls solcher meine Bibliothek zu lesen mir die Ehre ertheilen sollte, daß mir gegründeter Tadel mehr als unverdientes Lob willkommen sey; daß ich in dem Bewußtseyn, zur gegenseitigen Freundschaft des Deutschen und Englischen Volkes, welches am besten durch den Austausch ihrer Geistesprodukte geschehen kann, nach Kräften beigetragen zu haben, meinen größten Lohn für diese meine mühsame Arbeit finde; daß ich aber jedoch die Herausgabe der folgenden Lieferungen dieser Bibliothek von der Aufnahme, welche dieses Bändchen finden wird, abhängig zu machen genöthiget bin.

Der Verfasser.

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Storys and Adventures.

Part The first.

The history of Eudosia.

The Grecian Emperor Theodosius being about the age of one and twenty and designing to take a wife, desired his sister Pulcheria and his *friend* Paulinus to search his whole empire for a woman *of the* most exquisite beauty and highest accomplishments. In the midst of this search Athenais a Grecian virgin, accidentally offered herself. Her father who was an eniment Philosopher of Athens, and had bred her up in all the learning of that place, at his death left her but a very small portion, in which also she suffered great hardships from the injustice of her two brothers. This forced her upon a journey to Constantinople, where she had a relation, who represented her case to Pulcheria in order to obtain some redress from the Emperor. By this means, that religious Princes became acquainted

while Trap proceeded in the ordinary course by money and her waiting maid. The lady gave them both encouragement, receiving Trap into the utmost favour, and answering at the same time Stints letters and giving him opportunities at third places. Trap began to suspect the epistolary correspondence of his friend, and discovered also, that Stint opened all his letters, which came to their common lodgings, in order to form his own assignations. After much anxiety and restlesness, Trap came to a resolution, which he thought would break of their commerce with one another, without any hazarduous explanation. He therefore wrote a letter in a feigned hand to Mr. Trap at his chambers in the Temple. Stint according to custom seized and opened it, and was not a little surprized to find the inside directed to himself, when, with great perturbation of spirit he read as follows.

Mr. Stint!

„You have gained a slight satisfaction at the expence of doing a very hinious crime; at the price of a faithful friend you have obtained an inconstant mistress. I resoice in this expedient I have thought of, to break my mind to you, and tell you, that you are a base fellow, by a means, which does not expose you to the affront except you deserve it. I know Sir, as criminal as you

are, you have still shame enough to avenge yourself against the hardiness of any one, that should publickly tell you of it; I therefore, who have received so many secret hurts from you, shall take satisfaction with safety to myself. I call you base, and you must bear it, or acknowledge it. I triumph over you, that you can not come at me, nor do I think it dishonorable to come in armour to assult him, who was in ambuscade when he wounded me. „What need more be said, to convince you of being guilty of the basest practice imaginable, than that it is such as has made you liable to be treated after this manner, while you yourself can not in your own conscience but allow the justice of the upbraidings of

Your Injured Friend
Ralph Trap.

History of severel Adventurers who got (not) the 10,000 Pounds in the Lotterie.

Jonathan Wildgoose Silkmercer, had too much taste to be confined to dirty business, which he neglected for the more agreeable persuits of pleasure. Having therefore met with great losses in trade, he was obliged to embark the re-

mains of his shattered fortune in the Lottery, and by purchasing a number of tikets secured to himself the ten Thousand Pounds. He had determined to keep his success secret, bilk his creditors by becomming bankrupt, turn the whole into an annuity for his life, and live abroad like a gentleman upon the income. But unluckily his creditors came upon him too quickly; and before he could know, that he had not got the ten Thousand, hurried him to jail, where he now lies, lamenting that the Act of Insolvency had not become postponed till after the Lottery.

John Jones Esquire got not the Ten Thousand. This gentleman was fore-warned of his success by several indisputable tokens. His lady has dreamt of a particular Number, four nights together; and while the bells were ringing on his being chosen Bailiff of the corporation, they spoke in as plain words: „Mr. John Jones will get the Ten Thousand Pounds. He and his lady, therefore, came up to London; and not being able to meet with the particular number at any of the Lottery offices, which are always remarkable for selling the ten Thousands, they advertized it in the papers, and got the great Prize, only paying a guinea more for their ticket than the market-price. As Mrs. Jones knew a great deal of the world, having lived for some years

n quality of an upper servant in a great-house, she was determined, that Mr. Jones should take the opportunity, now they were in town, of learning how to behave himself, as he should do, when he came to his fortune. She therefore, introduced him to the best company in all the house-keepers and stewards rooms in the best families, where she was acquainted: and as Mr. Jones was so deficient in politeness, as not even to know how to make a bow in coming into a room, he had private lessons from a famous dancing master, who undertakes to teach grown gentleman how to dance. Mrs. Jones herself was very busy in consulting with the milliner and mantuamaker about the newest fashions, when the long looked for *Ten Tousand* came not up; and directly the Stage-coach carried them down again into the country with this only consolation, that their ticket was within *one* of the fortunate number.

Jemmy Lister, an Attorney's Clerk, was carried into the Lottery by pure disinterested love. He had conceived a violent passion for his masters daughter; but the prudent old gentleman could not be prevailed on to give her away to an handsome young fellow withont a penny. This enraged him so much, that he immediately sold the reversion of a small estate after the death of his grand mother, and by laying aut the purchase

money as far as it would go, in Shares and Chances, got the 10,000 P. Ticket. He was for some time in doubt, whether he should bestow his good fortune on the young lady, or employ it more fashionably in keeping a girl. However his hopes soon sunk to one of the 5000 l. prizes, which he generously determined to settle upon her together with his person. But in this too he was unhappily disappointed, and at last, like a true lover, contented himself, with the thoughts of maintaining her very prettily even (though her father should give her nothing) on the income of one or other of the inferior prizes, which he was sure would fall to his lot. Fortune alas! is no less blind a Deity than Love, they both conspired to disappoint him; and the unsucceseful gallant, having received a positive refusal from his mistress, out of mere spite directly married the maid.

The Story of Eigenhart Secretary to Charles the great.

Eigenhart, who was secretary to Charles the great became exceedingly popular by his behaviour in that post. His great abilities gained him the favour of his master, and the esteem of

the whole court. Imma the daughter of the Emperor, was so pleased with his person and conversation, that she fell in love with him. As she was one of the greatest beauties of the age, Eigenhart answered her with a more than equal return of passion. They stifled their flames for some time under apprehension of the fatal consequences, that might ensue. Eigenhart at lenght resolving to hazard all, rather than live deprived of one whom his heart was so much set upon, conveyed himself one night into the Princess's apartment, and knocking gently at the door, was admitted as a person, who had some thing to communicate to her from the Emperor. He was with her in private most part of the night; but upon his preparing to go away about break of the day, he observed that there had fallen a great snow during his stay with the princess. This very much perplexed him, lest the prints of his feet in the snow might make discoveries to the king, who often used to visit his daughter in the morning. He acquainted the princess Imma with his fears, who after some consultation about the matter, prevailed upon him to let her carry him through the snow upon her own shaulders. It happened, that the Emperor, not being able to sleep, was at that time up and walking in his chamber, when upon looking through the window he percieved his daughter tottering under the bur-

den, and carrying his first minister across the snow which she had no sooner done, but she returned again with the utmost speed to her own apartment. The Emperor was extremly troubled and astonished at this accident, but resolved to speak nothing of it till a proper opportunity. In the mean time Eigenhart knowing that, what he had done could not be long a secret, determined to retire from court and in order to it begged the Emperor, that he would be pleased to dismiss him, pretending a kind of discontent at his not having been rewarded for his long services. The Emperor would not give a direct answer to his petition but told him, he would think of it and appointed a certain day when he would let him know his pleasure. He then called together the most faithful of his consellors and acquainting them with his secretary's crime, asked them their advice in so delicate an affair. They most of them gave their opinion, that the person could not be severely punished; who had thus dishonored his master. Upon the whole debate the Emperor declared, it was his opinion, that Eigenharts punishment would rather encrease than diminish the shame of his family, and that therefore he thought it the most advisable to wear out the memory of the fact, by marrying him to his daughter. Accordingly Eigenhart was called in, and acquainted by the Emperor, that he should no

longer have any pretence of complaning his services were not rewarded, for that the Princes Imma should be given him in marriage, with a Dower suitable to her quality, which was soon after performed accordingly.

The Castilian a Story.

An inhabitant of the kingdom of Castile, being a man of more than ordinary prudence, and of a grave composed behaviour, determined about the fiftieth year of his age to enter upon wedlok. In order to make himself easy in it, he cast his eye upon a young woman, who had nothing to recommend her but her beauty and her education, her parents having been reduced to great poverty by the wars which for some years have laid that whole country waste. The Castilian having made his adresses to her and married her, they lived together in perfect happiness for some time, when at length the husbands affairs made it necessary for him to take a voyage to the kingdom of Naples. where a great part of his estate lay. The wife loved him too tenderly to be left behind him. They had not been a Ship board above a day, when they unluckily fell into the hands of

an algerine pirate, who carried the whole company on shore and made them slaves. The Castilian and his wife had the comfort to be under the same master; who seeing how dearly they loved one another and gasped after their liberty, demanded a most exorbitant price for their ransom. The Castilian though he would rather have died in slavery himself, than have paid such a sum, as he found would go near to ruin him, was so moved with compassion towards his wife, that he sent repeated orders to his friend in Spain (who happened to be his next relation) to sell his estate and transmit the money to him. His friend hoping that the terms of his ransom might be made more reasonable, and unwilling to sell an estate, which he himself had some prospect of inheriting, formed so many delays, that three whole years passed away without any thing being done for the setting of them at liberty. There happened to live a french renegado in the same place, where the Castilian and his wife were kept prisoners. As this fellow had in him all the vivacity of his nation, he often entertained the captives with accounts of his own adventures to which he some times added a song or a dance or some other piece of mirth to divert them during confinement. His acquaintance with the manners of the Algerines enabled him likewise to do them several good offices. The Castilian as he was one day in con-

versation, with this Renegado, discovered to him the negligence and treachery of his correspondent in Castile, and at the same time asked his advice how he should behave himself in that exigency. He further told the Renegado, that he found it would be impossible for him to raise the money, unless he himself might go over to dispose of his estate. The Renegado after having represented to him, that his Algerine master would never consent to his release upon such a pretence, at length contrived a method for the Castilian to make his escape in the habit of a seaman. The Castilian succeeded in his attempt and having sold his estate, being afraid lest the money should miscarry by the way and determining to perish with it rather than lose one, who was much dearer to him than his life he returned himself in a little vessel, that was going to Algiers. It is impossible to describe the joy he felt upon this occasion, when he considered, that he should soon see the wife whom he so much loved, and endear himself more to her by this uncommon piece of generosity.

The Renegado, during the husband's absence so insinuated himself in the good graces of his young wife, and so turned her head with stories of gallantry, that she quickly thought him the finest gentleman, she had ever conversed with.

To be brief, her mind was quite aleniated from the honest Castilian, whom she was tought to look upon as a formal old fellow unworthy the possesion of so charming a creature. She had been instructed by the Renegado how to manage herself upon his arrival; so that she received him with an apparance of the utmost love and gratitude and at length persuaded him to trust their common friend the Renegado with the money he had brought over for their ransomes; as not questioning but he would beat down the terms of it and negociate the affair more to their advantage than they them selves could do. The good man admired her prudence and followed her advice.

The Castilian having slept longer than ordinary the next morning, upon his awaking found his wife had left him. He immediately rose and enquired after her, but was told, that she was seen with the Renegado about break of day. In a word her lover having got all things ready for their departure, they soon made their escape out of the territories of Algiers, carried away the money and left the Castilian in captivity, who partly through the cruel treatment of the incensed Algerine his master, and partly through the unkind usage of his unfaithful wife, died some few month after.

Incle and Yarico a Story.

Mr. Thomas Inkle of London, aged twenty years embarked in the downs in the good ship called the Achilles, bound for the West-Indies in order to improve his fortune by trade and merchandise. Our adventurer was the third son of an eminent citizen, who had taken particular care to instill into his mind an early love of gain by making him a perfect master of numbers, and consequently giving him a quick view of loss and advantage, and preventing the natural impulses of his passion, by preposesion towards his interests. With a mind thus turned, young Inkle had a person every way agreable, a ruddy vigour in his countenance, strength in his limbs, with inglets of fair hair loosely flowing on his shoulders. It happened in the course of the voyage, that the Achilles, in some distress, put into a creek on the main of America in search of provisions. The youth, who is the hero of this story, among others went on shore on this occasion. From their first landing they were observed by a party of Indiens, who hid themselves in the woods for that purpose. The English unadvisedly marched a gread distance from the shore into the country, and were intercepted by the natives, who slew

the greatest number of them. Our advanturer escaped, among others by flying into a forest. Upon his coming into a remote and pathless part of the wood, he threw himself tired and breathless, on a little hillock, when an Indian maid rushed from a thiket behind him. After the first surprise, they appeared mutually agreeable to each other. If the European was highly charmed with the limbs, features, and wild graces of naked American the American was no less taken with the dress, complexion and shape of an European, covered from head to foot. The Iudian grew immediately enamoured of him, and consequently solicitous for his preservation. She therefore conveyed him to a cave, where she gave him a delicions repast of fruits, and led him to a stream to sleak his thirst. In the midst of these good offices she would some times play with his hair, and delight in the opposition of its colour to that of her fingers, then open his bosom, then laugh at him for covering it. She was, it seems, a person of distinctinction, for she every day came to him in a different dress of the most beautiful shells bugles, snd bredes. She likewise brought him a great many spoils, which her other lovers had presented to her, so that his cave was richely adorned with all the spoted skins of beasts, and most party-coloured feathers of fowels, which that world-afforded. To make his confinement

more tolerable, she would carry him in the dusk of the evening or by the favour of moonlight, to unfrequented groves and solitudes, and shew him where to lie down in safety, and sleep amidst the falls of waters and melodie of nightingales. Her part was to watch and hold him awake in her arms for fear of her country men, and wake him on occasions to consult his safety. In this manner did the lovers pass away their time, till they had learned a languagc of their own, in which the voyager communicated to his mistress how happy, he shocld be to have her in his country, where, she should be clothed in such silks as his waistcoat was made of, and be carried in houses drawn by horses, withont being exposed to wind or weather. All this he promised her the enjoyment of without such fears and alarms as they were there tormented with. In this tender correspondence these lovers lived for several months when Yarico, instructed by her lover, discovered, a vessel on the coast to which she made signals; and in the night with the utmost joy and satisfaction, accompanied him to a ship crew of his country men, bound for Barbadoes. When a vessel from the main arives in that island, it seems the planters come down to the shore, where there is an immediate market ef the Indians and other slaves, as with us of horses and oxen.

To be short, Thomas Inkle, now com-

ming into English territories began seriously to reflect upon his loss of time, and to veigh with himself, how many days interest of his money he had lost during his stay with Yarico. This thought made the young man pensive and careful what account he should be able to give his friends of his voyage. Upon which consideration the prudent and frugal young man sold Yarico to a Barbadian merchant, nothwithstanding, that the poor girl, to incline him to commiserate her condition, told him, that she was with child by him; but he only made use of that information, to rise in his demands upon the purchaser.

The Story of the Amazons.

(Taken from an unpublished Manuscript.)

In this republic of women all the girls of quality, from six to twelve years old, were put to public schools, where they learned to box and play at kudgels, with several other accomplishments of the same nature; so that nothing was more usual, than to see a little miss returning home at night, with a broken pate, or two or three teeth knocked out of her head. They were afterwards tought to ride the great horse, to shoot, dart or

fling, and listed into several companies, in order to perfect themselves in Military exercises. No woman was to be married'till she had killed a man. The Ladies of fashion used to play with young Lions instead of Lap-dogs, and when they made any parties of diversion, instead of entertaining themselves at Omber or piquet, they would wrestle and pitch the bar for a whole afternoon together. There was never any such thing as a blush seen, or a sigh heard in the common wealth. The women never dressed but to look terrible, to which end they would sometimes after a battle paint their cheeks, with the blood of their enemies. For this reason likewise, the face which had the most scars, was looked upon as the most beautiful. If they found lace, jewels, ribbons or any ornaments in Silver, or Gold among the booty, which they had taken, they used to dress their horses with it, but never entertained a thought of wearing it themselves. There were particular rights and privileges allowed to any member of the commonwealth, who was a mother of three daughters. The Senate was made up of old women; for by the laws of the country none was to be a consellor of state, that was not past Child-bearing. They used to boast their republic had continued four thousand years, which is altogether improbable, unless we may suppose, what I am very

apt to think, that they measured their time by lunar years.

There was a great revolution brought about in this female republic, by means of a neighbouring king, who had made war upon them several years with various success; some say, that the secretary of state having been troubled with the vapours had committed some fatal mistakes in several dispatches about that time. Others pretend, that the first minister being big with child, could not attend the public affairs, as so great an exigency of state required, but to this no manner of credit can be given to, since it seems to contradict a fundamental maxim in their government, as was before mentioned. The author of the manuscript gives the most probable reason of this great disaster; for he affirms, that the general was brought to bed, or (as others say) miscarried the very night before the battle. However it was, this signal over throw obliged them to call in the male republic to their assistance but not with standing their common efforts to repulse the victorious enemy, the war continued for many years before they could entirely bring it to a happy conclusion.

The Campaignes which both sexes passed together made them so well acquainted with one

another, that at the end of the war they did not care for parting. In the beginning of it they lodged in separate camps, but afterwards as they grew more familiar, they pitched their tents promiscously.

From this time the armies being Chequered with both sexes, they polished apace. The men used to invite their fellow soldiers into their quarters, and would dress their tents with flowers and boughs, for their reception. If they chanced to like one more than another, they would be cutting her name in the table, or chalking out her figure upon a wall, or talking of her in a kind of rapturous language, which by degrees improved into verse and sonnet. These were as the first rudiments of architecture, painting, and poetry among this savage people. After any advantage over the enemy, both sexes used to jump together and make a klattering with their sowerds and shields for joy, which in a few years produced several regular tunes and set of dances. When they had taken any spoils from the enemy, the men would make a present of every thing, that was rich and showy to the women, whom they most admired, and would frequently dress the necks, or heads, or arms of their mistresses with any thing which they thought appeared gay and pretty. The women observing that the men took delight in looking upon them, when they

were adorned with such trappings and gugaws, set their heads at work to find out new inventions and to outshine one another in all councils of war or the like solemn meetings. On the other hand, the men observing how the womens hearts were set upon finery, begun to embellish themselves and look as agreeably as they could in the eyes of their associates. In short after a few years conversing together, the women had learned to smile, and the men to ogle the women grew soft, and the men lively. When they had thus insensibly formed one another, upon the finishing of the war, which concluded with an entire conquest over their common enemy, the Colonels, in one army married the Colonels in the other; the Captains in the same manner took the Captains to their wives. The whole body of common Soldiers were matched, after the example of their leaders. By this means the two armies incorporated with one another, and became the most flourishing and polite government in the part of the world which they inhabited.

The Adventures of a Shilling narrated by himself.

I was born on the side of a mountain, near a little village of Pern and made a voyage to

England in an Ingot under the convoy of Sir Francis Drake. I was soon after my arrival taken out of my Indian habit, refined naturalized and put into the British mode with the face of queen Elizabeth on one side, and the arms of the country on the other. Being thus equipped, I found in me a wonderful inclination to ramble, and visit all the parts of the new world into which I was brought. The people very much favoured my natural disposition and shifted me so fast from hand to hand, that before I was five years old, I had travelled into almost every corner of the nation. But in the beginning of my sixth year, to my unspeakable grief, I fell into the hands of a miserable old fellow, who clapped me into an iron chest, where I found five-hundred more of my own quality, who lay under the same confinement. The only relief we had, was to be taken out and counted over in the fresh air every morning and evening. After an imprisonment of several years, we heard some body knocking at our chest and breaking it open with a Hammer. This we found was the old mans heir, who as his father lay a dying, was so good as to come to our release. He separated us that very day. What was the fate of my companions, I know not, as for myself, I was sent to the Apothecary's shop for a pint of sack. The Apothecary gave me to a herb woman, the herb woman

to a Butcher, the butcher to a brewer and the brewer to his wife, who made a present of me to a nonconfirmist preacher. After this manner I made my way merrily through the world, for as I said before, we Shillings love nothing so much as travelling. I sometimes fetched in a shoulder of mutton, some times a Play-book, and often had the satisfactien to treat a Templar at a Twelve penny Ordinary or carry him with three friends to Westminster-Hall.

In the midst of this pleasant progress, which I made from place to place, I was arrested by a superstitious old woman, who shut me up in a greasy purse, in pursuance of a foolish saying, that while she kept a queen Elizabeth's shilling about her, she would never be without money. I continued here a close prisoner for a month, till at last I was exchanged for eight and forty farthings. I thus rambled from Poket to Pocket till the beginning of the civil wars, when (to my shame) be it spoken) I was employed in raising Soldiers against the king; for being of a very tempting breadth a Sergeant made use of me to inveigle country-fellows and list them in the service of Parliament. As soon as he made one man sure, his way was to oblige him to take a shilling of a more homely figure and then practise the same trick upon another. Thus I continued doing great mïschief to the crown till my Officer

chancing one morning to walk abroad earlier than ordinary, sacrified me to his pleasures and made use of me to seduce a Milk-maid. This wench bent me, and gave me to her sweet heart, applying more properly than she intended the usual form of, To my love and from my love. This ungenerous gallant marrying her within a few days after pawned me for a dram of brandy and drinking me out next day, I was beaten flat with an hammer and again set a running.

After many adventures, which it would be tedious to relate, I was sent to a young spendshrift, in company with the will of his diceased father. The young fellow, who, I found was very extravagant, gave great demonstrations of joy at the receiving the will, but opening it, he found himself disinherited and cut off from the possession of a fair estate, by virtue of my being made a present to him. This put him into such a passion, that after having taken me in his hand, and cursed me, he squirred me away from him as far as he could fling me. I chanced to light in an unfrequented place under a dead wall, where I lay undiscovered and useless, during the usurpation of Oliver Cromwell.

About a year after the kings return, a poor cavalier, that was walking there about dinner time,

fortunately cast his eye upon me, and to the great joy of us both, carried me to a cooks shop, where he dined upon me and drank the king's health. When I came again into the world I found that I had been happier in my retirement, than I thought, having probably by that means escaped wearing a monstruous pair of breeches.

Being now of great credit and antiquity, I was rather looked upon as a Medal, than an ordinary coin; for which reason a gamester laid hold of me, and converted me into a counter, having got together some dozens of us for that use. We led a melancholy life in his possessions, being busy at those hours wherein current coin is at rest, and partaking the fate of our master, being in a few moments valued at a crown, a pound, or a sixpence, according to the situation in which the fortune of the cards placed us. I had at length the good luck to see my master break, by which means I was again sent abroad under my primitive denomination of a Shilling.

I shall pass over many other accidents of less moment, and hasten to that fatal catastroph, when I fell into the hands of an artist, who conveyed me under ground, and with an unmerciful pair of shears cut of my titles, cliped my brims, retrenched my shape, rubbed me to my inmost

ring, and in short, so spoiled and pillaged me, that he did not leave me worth a croat. You may think what a confusion I was in to see myself thus curtailed und disfigured. I should have been ashamed to have shewn my head, had not all my old acquaintance been reduced to the same shameful figure. In the midst of this general calamity, when every body thought our misfortune irretrievable, and our case desperate, we were thrown into the furnace together, appeared with greater beauty and luster, than we could ever boast of before. What has happened to me since this change of sex, which we now present I shall take some other opportunity to relate. In the mean time I shall only repeat two adventures, as being very extraordinary, and neither of them having ever happened to me above once in my life. The first was my being in a poets pocket, who was so taken with the brightness and novelty of my appearance, that it gave occasion to the finest burlesque Poem in the british language, entitiled from me the splendid Shilling. The second adventure, which I must not omit happened to me in the year 1703 when I was given away in charity to a blind man; but indeed this was by the person having mistaken me for a farthing.

Adventure of a French Nobleman in discovering his children.

It will be necessary to inform the reader, that the person alluded to in this memoirs, was one, whose roving and romantic temper joined to a disposition singularly amorous had led him through a vast variety of gallantries and amours. He had in his youth, attended a Princes of France into Poland, where he had been entertained by the king her husband, and married the daughter of a grande. Upon her death he returned to his native country, where his intrigues and other misfortunes having consumed his paternal estate, he now went to take care of the fortune his deceased wife had left him in Poland. On his jurney he was robbed before he reached Wasaw and lay ill of a fever, when he met with the following adventure; which he shall relate in his own words.

„I had been in this condition for four days, when the countess of Venoski passed that way. She was informed, that a stranger of good fashion lay sick, and her charity led her to see me. I rememberd her, for I had often seen her with my

wife, to whom she was nearly related; but when I found she knew not me, I thought fit to conceal my name. I told her I was a German, that I had been robbed, and that if she had the charity to send me to Warsaw, the Queen would acknowledge it, I having the honour to be known to her Majesty. The Countess had the goodness to take compassion of me, and ordering me to be put in a Litter carried me to Warsaw, where I was lodged in her house till my health should allow me to wait on the Queen. My fever increased, after my journey was over and I was confined to my bed for fifteen days. When the Countess first saw me, she had a young Lady with her about eighteen years of age. She was very fair, her skin excedingly fine, and her air and shape inexpressibly beautiful. The aimable creature seemed afflicted at my sickness, and she appeared to have so much concern and care for me, as raised in me a great inclination and tenderness for her. She came every day into my chamber to enquire after my health; I asked who she was, and I was answered, that she was Niece to the Countess of Venoski. I verily believe, that the constant sight of this charming maid, and the pleasure I received from her careful attendance, contributed more to my recovery, than all the medicines the Phisicians gave me. In short my fever left me and I had the satisfaction to see

the lovely Creature overjoy'd at my recovery. She came to see me oftener, as I grew better and I already felt a stronger and more tender affection for her than I ever bore to any woman in my life. When I began to perceive, that her constant care of me was only a blind to give her an opportunity of seeing a young Pole, whom I took to be her lover. He seemed to be much about her age, of a brown complexion, very tall, but finely shaped. Every time she came to see me the young gentleman came to find her out, and they usually retired to a corner of the chamber, where they seemed to converse with great earnestness. The aspect of the youth pleased me wonderfully, and if I had not suspected, that he was my rival, I should have taken delight in his person and friendship. They both of them often asked me, if I were in reality a German, which when I continued to affirm they seemed very much troubled. One day I took notice, that the young Lady and Gentleman, having retired to a window, were very intent upon a Picture; and that every now and then they cast their eyes upon me, as if they had found some resemblance between that and my features. I could not forbear to ask the meaning of it, upon which the Lady answered, that if I had been a Frenchman, she should have imagined, that I was the person for whom the picture was drawn, because

it so exactly resembled me. I desired to see it. But how great was my surprize! when I found it to be the very painting, which I had sent to the Queen some years before, and which she commanded me to get drawn to be given to my children. After I had viewed the piece, I cast my eyes upon the young Lady, and then upon the gentleman I had thought to be her lover. My heart beat, and I felt a secret emotion, which filled me with wonder. I thought I traced in the two young persons some of my own features, and at that moment I said to myself are not these my children? The tears came into my eyes, and I was about to run and embrace them, but constraining myself with pain, I asked, whose picture it was? The maid perceiving, that I could not speak without tears fell a weeping. Her tears absolutrly confirmed me in my opinion, and falling upon her neck, Ah! my dear child, said I, yes I am your father. I could say no more. The youth seized my hands at the same time, and kissing bathed them with his tears. Throughout my life I never felt a joy equal to this, and it must be own'd, that nature inspires more lively motions and pleasing tenderness, than the passions can possibly excite.

The Adventures of Lady Pekuah, Maid of Honour to a Princess of Abissinia, who was made captive by an Arabian Troop: as narrated by herself to the Princess.

„At what time, and in what manner I was forced away, said Pekuah, your servants have told you. The suddeness of the event struck me with surprize, and I was at first rather stupified than agitated, with any passion of either fear or sorrow. My confusion was increased by the speed and tumult of our flight, while we were followed by a turkish force, who as it seemed, soon despaired to overtake us.

„When the Arabs saw themselves out of danger, they slakened their course, and as I was less harrassed by external violence, I began to feel more uneasiness in my mind. After some time, we stopped near a spring shaded with trees in a pleasant meadow, where we were set upon the ground and offered such refreshments as our masters were partaking. I was suffered to sit

with my maids appart from the rest, and none attempted to confort or insult us. Here I first began to feel the full weight of my misery. The girls sat weeping in silence, and some times looked on me for succur. I knew not to what condition we were doomed, nor could conjecture, where would be the place of our captivity, or whence to draw any hope of deliverance. I was in the hands of robbers and savages, and had no reason to suppose, that their pity was more than their justice, or that they would forbear the gratification of any ardour of desire, or caprice of cruelty: I, however, kissed my maids, and endeavoured to pacify them by remarking, that we were yet treated with decency, and that, since we were now carried beyond pursuit, there was no danger of violence to our lives.

„When we were to be set again on horseback, my maids clung round me, and refused to be parted, but I commanded them not to irritate those, who had us in their power. We travelled the remaining part of the day, through an unfrequented and pathless country, and came by moon light to the side of a hill, where the rest of the troop was stationed. Their tents were pitched and their fires kindled, and our chief was welcomed as a man much beloved by his dependants. „We were received into a large tent

where we found women, who had attended their husbands in the expedition. They set before us the supper, which they had provided, and I eat it rather to encourage my maids, than to comply with any appetite of my own. When the meat was taken away, they spread the carpets for repose, I was weary, and hoped to find in sleep that remission of distress which nature seldom denies. Ordering myself therefore to be undrest, I observed, that the women looked very earnestly upon me, not expecting, I suppose te see me so submissively attended. When my upper vest was taken off, they were apparently struck with the splendour of my cloaths, and one of them timorously laid her hand upon the embroidery. She then went out, and, in a short time, came back with another woman, who seemed to be of higher rank and greater authority. She did at her entrance, the usual act of reverence, and taking me by the hand, placed me in a smaller tent spread with finer carpets, where I spent the night quietly with my maids.

„In the morning, as l was sitting on the grass, the chief of the troop came towards me. I rose up to receive him, and he bowed with great respect.“ Illustrious lady, said he my fortune is better than I had presumed to hope; I am told by my women, that I have a princess in my

camp. „Sir answered I, your women have deceived themselves and you: I am not a princess, but an unhappy stranger who intended soon to have left this country in which I am now to be imprisoncd for ever.“ Whoever, or whencesoever, you are, returned the Arab, your dress and that of your servants, show your rank to be high, and your wealth to be great. Why should you, who can so easily procure your ransom, think yourself in danger of perpetual captivity? The purpose of my incursions is to increase my riches or more properly to gather tribute. The sons of Ishmael are the natural and hereditary lords of this part of the continent, which is usurped by late invaders, and low born tyrants, from whom we are compelled to take by the sword what is denied to justice. The violence of war admits no distinction, the lance, that is lifted at guilt and power, will sometimes fall on innocence and gentleness. „How little, said I, did I expect that yesterday it should fall upon me.“ Misfortune, answered the Arab, should always be expected. If the eye of hostility could learn reverence or pity, excellence like yours had been exempt from injury. But the angles of affliction spread their toils alike for the virtuous and the wicked, for the mighty and the mean. Do not be disconsolate; I am not one of the lawless and cruel rovers of the desert; I know the rules of civil life. I will fix your

ransom, give a passport to your messenger, and perform my stipulation with nice punctuality.“ „You will easily believe, that I was pleased with his courtesy; and finding that his predominant passion was desire of money. I began now to think my danger less, for I knew that no sum would be thought too great for the release of Pekuah. I told him, that he should have no reason to charge me with ingratitude, if I was used with kindness, and that any ransom, which could be expected for a maid of common rank, would be paid, but that he must not persist to rate me as a princess. He said, he would consider, what he should demand, and then smiling, bowed and retired.

„Soon after the women came about me, each contending to be more officious than the other, and my maids themselves weré served with reverence. We travelled onward by short journies. On the fourth day the chief told me, that my ransom must be two hundred onces of gold, which I not only promised him, but told him, that I would add fifty more, if I and my maids were honorably treated.

„I uever knew the power of gold before. From that time I was the leader of the troop. The march of every day was longer or shorter

as I commanded, and the tents were pitched where I chose to rest. We now had camels and other conveniences for travel, my own women were always at my side, and I amused myself with observing the manners of the vagrant nations, and with viewing remains of ancient edifices with which these deserted countries appear to have been in some distant age lavishly embellished.

„The chief of the band was a man far from illiterate; he was able to travel by the stars or the compass, and had marked in his erratik expeditions such places as are most worthy of the notice of a passenger. He observed to me, that buildings are always best preserved in places little frequented, and difficult of access, for when once a country declines from its primitive splendour, the more inhabitants are left the quicker ruin will be made. Walls supply stones more easily than quarries, and palaces and tempels will be demolished to make stables of granate, and cottages of perphyry.

„We wandered about in this manner for some weeks, whethers as our chief pretended, for my gratification, or as I rather suspected, for some convenience of his own. I endeavoured to appear contented where sulleness and resentment would have been of no use and that endeavour conduced

much to the calmness of my mind: but my heart was always with my Princess, and the troubles of the night much overbalanced the amusements of the day. My women, who threw all their cares upon their mistress, set their minds at ease from the time when they saw me treated with respect, and gave themselves up to the incidental alleviations of our fatigue without solicitude or sorrow. I was pleased with their pleasure and animated with their confidence. My condition has lost much of its terror, since I found, fhat the Arab ranged the country merely to get riches. Avarice is an uniform and tractable vice: other intellectual distempers are different in different constitutions of mind; that which soothes the pride of one will offend the pride of another; but to the favour of the covetous, there is a ready way, bring money and nothing is denied.

„At last we came to the dwelling of our chief, a strong spacious house built with stone in an island of the Nile, which lies, as I was told, under the tropik. „Lady, said the Arab, you shall rest after your journey a few weeks in this place, where you are to consider yourself as sovereign. My occupation is war: I have therefore chosen this obscure residence, from which I can issue unexpected and to which I can retire unpersued. You may now repose in security, here are few pleasures, but here is no danger.“

He then led me into the inner apartments, and seating me on the richest coach, bowed to the ground. His women, who considered me as a rival, looked on me with malignity; but being soon informed, that I was a great lady detained only for my ransom, they began to vie with each other in obsequiousness and reverence. „Being again conforted with new assurances of speedy liberty, I was for some days diverted from impatience by the novelty of the place. The turrets overlooked the country to, a great distance, and afforded a view of many windings of the stream. In the day I wandered from one place to an other, as the course of the sun varied the splendour of the prospect, and saw many things, which I had never seen before. The crocodils, and river-horses are common in this unpeopled region, and I often looked upon them with terror, though I knew, that they could not hurt me. For some time I expected to see mermaids and tritons, which some European travellers have stationed in the Nile, but no such beings ever appeared, and the Arab, when I inquired after them, laughed at my credulity.

„At night the Arab always attended me to a tower set apart for celestial observations, where he endeavoured to teach me the names and courses of the stars. I had no great inclination to this study, but an appearance of attention was

necessary to please my instructor, who valued himself for his skill, and in a little while, I found some employment requisite to beguile the tediousness of time, which was to be passed always amidst the same objects. I was weary of looking in the morning on things from which I hava turned away weary in the evening; I therefore was at last willing to observe the stars rather than do nothing but could not always compose my thoughts and was very often thinking of my Princess, when others imagined me contemplating the sky. Soon after the Arab went upon another expedition, and then my only pleasure was to talk with my maids about the accident by which we were carried away, and the happiness, that we should all enjoy at the end of our captivity.“

„Notwithstanding the promise of the Arab, whenever I proposed to dispatch a messenger to Cairo, he found some excuse for my delay. While I was detained in his house he made many incursions into the neighbouring countries, and perhaps, he would have refused to discharge me, had his plunder been equal to his wishes. He returned always courteous, related his adventures, delighted to hear my observations, and endeavoured to advance my acquaintence with the stars. When I importuned him to send away my letters,

he soothed me with professious of honor and sincerity; and when I could be no longer decently denied, put his troop again in motion, and left me to govern in his absence. I was much afflicted by this studied procrastination, and was sometimes afraid, that I should be forgotten; that you would leave Cairo and I must end my days in an island of the Nile.

„I grew at last hopless and dejected, and cared so little to entertain him, that he for a while more frequently talked with my maids. That he should fall in love with them, or with me, might have been equally fatal, and I was not much pleased with the growing friendship. My anxiety was not long; for, as I recovered my cheerfulness he returned to me, and I could not forbear to despise my former uneasiness. „He still delayed to send for my ransom, and would perhaps, never have determined, had not your agent found his way to him. The gold, which he would not fetch, he could not reject when it was offered. He hastened to prepare for our journey hither, like a man delivered from an intestine conflict.“

The Hermits Story.

„I have lived fifteen years in solitude, but have no desire, that my example should gain any imitators. In my youth I professed arms, and was raised by degrees to the highest military rank. I have traversed wide countries at the head of my troops, and seen many battles and sieges. At lust being, disgusted by the preferment of a younger officer, and seeing that my vigour was beginning to decay, I resolved to close my life in peace having found the world full of snares discord and misery. I had once escaped from the pursuit of the enemy by the shelter of a cavern, and therefore chosed it for my final residence. I employed artificers to form it into chambers, and stored it with all that I was likely to want.

„For some time after my retreat, I rejoiced like a tempest beaten sailor at his entrance into the harbour, being delighted with the sudden change of the noise and hurry of war, to stillness and repose. When the pleasure of novelty went away, I employed my hours in examining the plants, which grow in the valley, and the mine-

rals, which I collected from the rocks. But that inquir yis now grown tasteless and irksome. I have been for sometime unsettled and distracted, my mind is disturbed with a thousand perplexities and doubt, and vanities of imagination, which hourly pravaile upon me, because I have no opportunities of relaxation or diversion. I am some times ashamed to think, that I could not secure myself from vice, but by retiring from the exercise of virtue, and begin to suspect, that I was rather impelled by resentment, than led by devotion into solitude. My fancy riots in scenes of folly, and I lament, that I have lost so much, and have gained so little. In solitude, if I escape the exemples of bad men, I want likewise the counsel and conversation of the good. I have been long comparing the evils, with the advantages of society, and resolve to return into the world to morrow. The life of a solitary man will be certainly miserable but not certainly devout.

Eudoxus and Leontine a Story.

Eudoxus and Leontine, were two friends, who began the world with small estates. They were both of them men of good sense and great

virtue. They prosecuted their studies together in their earlier years and entered into such a friendship as lasted to the end of their lives. Eudoxus, at his first setting out in the world, threw himself into a court, where by his natural abilities he made his way from one post to an other, till at lenght he had raised a very considerable fortune. Leontine on the contrary thought all opportunities of improving his mind by study, conversation and travel. He was not only acquainted with all the sciences but also with the most eminent Professors of them throughout Europe. He knew perfectly well the interests of its princes, with the costums aud fashions of their courts, and could scarce meet with the name of an extraordinary person in the Gazette, whom he had not either talked to or seen. In short he had so well mixed and digested his knowledge of men and books, that he made one of the most accomplished persons of his age. During the whole course of his studies and travels, he kept up a punctual correspondance with Eudoxus, who often made himself acceptable to the principal men about court by the intelligence, which he received from Leontine. When they were both turned of forty, they determined, pursuant to the resolution they had taken in the beginning of their lives, to retire and pass the remainder of their days in the country. In order to this, they both

of them married much about the same time. Leontine with his own and his wife's fortune, bought a farm of three hundred a year, which lay within the neighbourhood of his friend Eudoxus, who had purchased an estate of as many thousands. They were both of them fathers about the same time. Eudoxus having a son born to him and Leontine a daughter; but to the unspeakable grief ot the latter his young wife (in whom all his happiness was wrapt up) died in a few days after the birth of her daughter. His affliction would have been insupportable, had he not been comforted by the daily visits and conversations of his friend. As they were one day talking together with their usual intimacy, Leontine, considering how incapable he was of giving his daughter a proper education in his own house, and Eudoxus reflecting on the ordinary behaviour of a son, who knows himself to be the heir of a great estate, they both agreed upon an exchange of children, namely, that the boy should be bred up with Leontine as his son and the girl should live with Eudoxus as his daughter, til they were each of them arrived at years of discretion. The wife of Eudoxus, knowing that her son could not be so advantagiously brought up as under the care of Leontine, and considering at the same time, that he would be perpetually under her own eye, was by degrees

prevailed upon to fall in with the project. She therefore took Leonilla, for that was the name of the girl and educated her as her own daughter. The two friends on each side hadwrought themselves to such an habitual tenderness for the children, who were under their direction, that each of them had the real passion of a father, where the tilte was but imaginary. Florio, the name of the young hair, that lived with Leontine, though he had all the duty and affection imaginable for his supposed parent, was tought to rejoice at the sight of Eudoxus, who visited his friend very freqnently, and was dictated by his natural affection, as well as by the rules of prudence to make himself esteemed and beloved by Florio. The boy was now old enough to know his supposed fathers circumstances, and that therefore he was to make his way in the world by his own industry. This consideration grew stronger in him every day, and produced so good an effect, that he applied himself with more than ordinary attention to the pursuit of every thing, which Leontine recommended to him. His natural abilities, which were very good, assisted by the direction of so excellent a counselor, enabled him to make a quicker progress, than ordinary through all the parts of his education. Before he was twenty years of age, having finished his studies and exercises with great applause, he was

removed from the University to the Inns of Court, where there are very few, that make themselves considerable proficients in the studies of the place, who know they shall arrive at great estates without them. This was not Florio's case, he found, that three hundred a year was but a poor estate for Leontine and himself of live upon, so that he studied without intermission till he gained a very good insight into the constitution and laws of his country.

The reader should have been told however, that whilst Florio lived at the house of his foster-father, he was always an acceptable guest in the family of Eudoxus, where he became acquainted with Leonilla from her infancy. His acquaintance with her by degrees grew into love, which in a mind trained up in all the sentiments of honour and virtue became a very uneasy passion. He despaired of gaining an heiress of so great a fortune, and would rather have died, than attempted it by any indirect methods. Leonilla, who was a woman of the greatest beauty, joined with the greatest modesty, entertained at the same time a secret passion for Florio, but conducted herself, with so much prudence, that she never gave him the least intimation of it. Florio was now engaged in all those arts and improvements, that are proper to raise a man's

private fortune, and give him a figure in his country, but secretly tormented with that passion, which burns with the greatest fury in a virtuous and noble heart, when he received a sudden summons from Leontine to repair to him into the country the next day. For it seems Eudoxus was so filled with the report of his son's reputation, that he could no longer withold making himself known to him. Floria was no sooner arrived at the house of his real father, but Eudoxus took him by the hand, after the first salutes were over, and conducted him into his closet. He there opened to him the whole secret of his parentage and education concluding after this manner.

„I have no other way of acknowledging my gratitude to Leontine than by marrying you to his daughter. He shall not lose the pleasure of being your father by the discovery I have made to you. Leonilla too shall be still my daughter, her fillial piety, though misplaced, has been so exemplary that it deserves the greatest reward I can conferr upon it. I have left your mother in the next room, her heart yearns towards you. She is making the same discoveries to Leonilla, which I have made to yourself. Florio was so overwhelmed with this profusion of happiness that he threw himself down at his fathers feet

asking his blessing and expressing in dumb show his gratitude.

To conclude the happy pair were married and half Eudoxus estate settled uxon them. Leontine and Eudoxus passed the remainder of their lives together and received in the affectionate behaviour of Florio and Leonilla the just recompence for their paternal cares.

The Story of Mr. Rhynsault.

When Charles Duke of Burgundy, sirnamed the bold reigned over the spacious dominions, now swallowed up by the power of France, he heaped many favours and honours upon one Claudius Rhynsault, who had served him in his wars against the insults of his neighbours. A great part of Zealand was at that time in subjection to that Dukedom. The Prince himself was a person of singular humanity and justice. Rhynsault with no other real quality than courage, had dissimulation enough to pass upon his generous and unsuspicious master for a person of blunt honesty and fidelity, without any vice that could biass him from the execution of justice.

His highness prepossessed to his advantage, upon the decease of the Governor of his chief town of Zealand, gave Rhynsault that command. He was not long seated in that Government, before he cast his eyes upon Sapphira a woman of exquisite beauty, the wife of Paul Dauvelt, a wealthy merchant of the city under his protection and government.

Rhynsault was a man of a warm constitution, and violent Inclination to women, and not unskilled in the soft arts which win their favour. He knew what it was to enjoy the satisfactions, which are reaped from the possession of beauty, but was an utter stranger to the decencies, honours and delicacies that attend the passion towards them in elegant minds.

However he had so much of the world, that he had a great share of the language, which usually prevails upon the weaker part of that sex, as he could with his tongue utter a passion with which his heart was wholly untouched. He was one of those brutal minds, which can be gratified with the violation of innocence and beauty, without the least pity, passion or love to that, with which they are so much delighted. Ingratitude is a vice inseperable to a lustful man; and the possession of a woman by him, who has no thought but

allaying a passion painful to himself, is necessarily followed by distaste and aversion. Rhynsault was resolved to accomplish his will on the wife of Dauvelt and left no arts untried to get into a familiarity at her house; but she knew his character and disposition too well, not to shun all occasions, that might ensnare her into his conversation. The governor despairing of success by ordinary means, apprehended and imprisoned her husband, under pretence of an information, that he was guilty of a correspondance with the enemies of the Duke to betray the town into their possession. This design had its desired effect; and the wife of the unfortunate Dauvelt, the day before that which was appointed for his execution, presented herself in the hall of the governors house and as he passed through the appartment, threw herself at his feet, and holding his kees, beseeched his mercy. Rhynsault beheld her with a dissembled satisfaction, and assuming an air of thought and authority, he bid her arise, and told her she must follow him to his closet; and asking her whether she knew the hand of the letter he pulled out of his pocket, went from her, leaving this admonition aloud: If you will save your hushand, you must give me an account of all you know without prevarication; for every body is satisfied, he was too fond of you to be able to hide from you the names of

the rest of the conspirators or any other particular whatsoever. He went to his closet, and soon after the lady was sent for to an audience. The servant knew his distance, when matters of state were to be debated; and the governor, laying aside the air with which he had appeared in public, began to be the supplicant, to rally an affliction, which it was in her power easily to remove. She easily perceived his intention, and bathed in tears, began to deprecate so wicked a design, and relieve an innocent man from his imprisonment. Lust, like ambition, takes all the faculties of the mind and body into its service and subjection. Her becomming tears, her honest anguish, the wringing of her hands, and the many changes of her posture and figure in the vehemence of speaking, were but so many attitudes in which he beheld her beauty, and further incentives of his desire. All humanity was lost in that one appetite and he signified to her in so many plain terms, that he was unhappy till he had possessed her, and nothing less should be the price of her husbands life; and she must before the following noon, pronounce the death or enlargment of Dauvelt. After this notification, when he saw Saphira enough again distracted to make the subject of their discourse to common eyes appear different from what it was he called servants to conduct her to the gate. Loaded with insuppor-

table affliction, she immediately repaired to her husband, and having signified to his goalers, that she had a proposal to make to her husband from the governor, she was left alone with him, revealed to him all that had passed and represented the endless conflict she was in between love to his person and fidelity to his bed. It is easy to imagine the sharp affliction this honest pair was in upon such an incident, in lives not used to any but ordinary occurences. The man was bridled by shame from speaking what his fear prompted upon so near an approach of death; but let fall words that signify'd to her, he should not think her polluted, though she had not yet confessed to him that the governor had violated her person, since he knew her will had no part in the action. She parted from him with this oblique permission to save a life he had not resolution enough to resign for the safety of his honour. The next morning the unhappy Sapphira attended the governor, and being led into a remote apartment, submitted to his desires.

Rhynsault commended her charms, claim'd a familiarity after what had passed between them and with an air of gaiety, in the language of a gallant, bid her return and take her husband out of prison; But continued he, my fair one must not be offended, that I have taken care he should

not be an interruption to our future assignations. These last words foreboded what she found when she came to the gaol, her husband executed by the order of Rhynsault. —

It was remarkable, that the woman, who was full of tears and lamentations, during the whole course of her affliction, uttered neither sigh nor compaint, but stood fixed with grief at this consumation of her misfortunes. She betook herself to her abode, and, after having in solitude paid her devotions to him, who is the avenger of innocence, she repaired privately to court. Her person, and a certain grandeur of sorrow negligent of forms, gain'd her passage into the presence of the Duke her sovereign. As soon as she came into his presence, she broke forth into the following words: „Behold, O! mighty Charles, a wretch weary of life, though it has always been spent with innocence and virtue. It is not in your power to redress my injuries, but it is to avenge them. And if the protection of the distressed, the punishment of oppressors, is a task not unworthy of a Prince I bring the Duke of Burgundy ample matter for doing honour to his own great name, and wiping infamy off mine. When she had spoken this, she deliver'd the Duke a paper reciting her story. He read it with all the emotions, that indignation and pity could raise

in a prince jealous of his honour in the behaviour of his officers and prosperity of his subjects. Upon an appointed day Rhynsault was sent for to court and in the presence of a few of the council confronted by Sapphira: the Prince asking, do you know that Lady? Rhynsault, as soon as he could recover his surprize told the Duke he would marry her if his highness would please to think that a reparation. The Duke seemd contented with his answer, and stood by during the immediate solemnization of the ceremony. At the conclusion of it he told. Rhynsault, thus far you have done as constrained by my authority; I shall not be satisfied of your kind usage of her, without you sign a gift of your whole estate to her after your decease." To the performance of this also the Duke was a witness. When these two acts were executed, the Duke turned to the lady, and told her, it now remains for me to put you in quiet possession of what your husband has so bountifully bestowed on you; and ordered the immediate execution of Rhynsault.

Curiosity necessary to entertainment and knowledge: The Story of Mr. Friendly and his Nephew.

Mr. George Friendly, while he was a student at the University of Oxford, became possessed of a large Estate, by the death of his elder brother: instead, therefore, of going up to London for preferment, he retired to the family-seat in the country; and as he had acquired the habit of study and a strong relish for literature, he continued to live nearly in the same manner as at college; he kept little company, had no pleasure in the sports of the field, and being disappointed in his first addresses, would never marry. His sister the wife of a gentleman, who farmed his own estate, had one son, whose name was John. Mr. Friendly directed, that John should be put to a reputable school in the country, and promised to take care of his fortune. When the lad was about ninteen, his uncle declared his intention to send him to the university, but first desired to see him, that he might know what proficiency he had made in the languages. John therefore, set out on a visit to his uncle and was

received with great affection, he was found to have acquired a reasonable knowledge of Latin and Greek; and Mr. Friendly formed a very favourable opinion of his abilities, and determined to reward his diligence, and encourage him to perseverance. One evening, therefore, he took him up into his study, and after having directed him to sit down, „Cousin John, said he, I have some sentiments to communicate to you, with which I know you will be pleased; for truth like virtue, is never perceived but with delight.“ John, whose heart did not give a full assent to the truth of this proposition, found himself in circumstances, which, by the mere force of habit, caused him to draw a long breath through his nose, and at the same time with a grin of exquisite sensibility to scratch his head. „But my observations, cousin, said his uncle, have a necessary connection with a purpose, that I have formed, and with which you shall also be acquainted. Draw your chair a little nearer. „The passions, cousin John, as they are naturally productive of all pleasure, should by reasonable beings be also rendered subservient to a higher purpose. The love of variety, which is found in every breast, as it produces much pleasure, may also produce much knowledge.“

„One of the principal advantages, that are derived from wealth, is a power to gratify, and im-

prove this passion. The rich are not confined by labour to a particular spot, where the same ideas perpetually recur; they can fill the mind, either by travel, or by study, with inumerable images, of which others have no conception. But it must be considered, that the pleasure of travelling, does not arise from the sight of a dirty town, or from lodging at an Inn; not from any hedge or cottage, that is passed on the road; nor from the confused objects, that are half discovered in the distant prospect; nor from the series of well built houses in a city, or the busy multitudes, that swarm in the streets; but from the rapid succession of these objects to each other, and the number of ideas, that are thrown in upon the mind.“ Mr. Friendly here paused for John's reply; and John suddenly recollecting himself said „very true.“ „But how said Mr. Friendly can this love of variety be directed to the acquisition of knowledge?“

Here John, wriggled in his seat, and again scratched his head; he was indeed something embarrassed by the question; but the old gentleman quickly put him out of his pain by answering it himself. „Why, by a judicious choice of the variety, that is to produce our entertainement. If the various doublings of a hare only, or the changes of a game at whist, have

afforded the variety of the day; whatever has been the pleasure, improvment has been wanting. But if the different customs, the policy, the trade of nations, the variety of soils, the manner of culture, the disposition of individuals; or the rise or fall of a state, have been impressed upon the mind, besides the pleasure of a review, a power creating new images is acquired. Fancy can combine the ideas, which memory has treasured, and when they have been reviewed and regulated by judgment, some scheme will result, by which commerce may be extended, agriculture improved, immorality restrained, and the prosperity of the state secured: of this cousin John you was not wholly ignorant before.“

John acquiesced with a bow; for though he had been a little bewildered, yet he understood, by the tone of voice with which his uncle concluded the last sentence, that such acquiescence was expected. „Upon this occasion continued Mr. Friendly, I must remark though it is something foreign to my purpose, that variety has by some philosophers been considered as affording not only the pleasure and improvement, but even the measure of life; for of time in the abstract we have no conception and can perceive it only by the succession of the phenomena in nature.“ A thicker gloom now fell upon John, and his

countenance lengthened in proportion to his uncles lecture, the end of which he perceived was now become more remote: the old gentleman, however proceeded thus with great deliberation. But though curiosity should be principally directed to useful purposes, yet it should not always be repressed or diverted, when the use is not immediate or apparent. I am therefore, now about to gratify your curiosity, cousin, with a view of London and all the variety that it contains.“ Here John's countenance brightened he roused himself on his seat and looked eager with attention.

„As you have, continued his uncle, applied yourself to your gramar learning, I doubt not, but you have also read many of our best English authors, especially our immortal Shakespeare; and I am willing, that, before you enter upon a course of academic study, you should see the theater.“ John was going to express his joy, when his uncle increased it, by putting into his hands a Bank note of fifty pounds. „This said he, under the direction of a gentleman, to whom I shall recommend you, will furnish you with proper apparel, bear your expence for a couple of mouths, and gratify you with all the entertainment of the town.“

John could now bear some part in the conversation; he was much obliged to his uncle, and

hoped, he should live to make him amends. „For, says he, one of our ushers, who was just returned from London before I left school, has made me long to see it; he says, there is a man there, who dances upon a wire no bigger, than a packthread, and that there is a collection of all the strange creatures in the world.“ John, who had uttered this with a broad grin, and expressed his delight from head to foot, was some what disconcerted, when his uncle told him cooly, that though he would not have him leave London, without seeing every thing in it, that might justly raise curiosity; yet he hoped his notice was not principally attracted by objects, which could convey no instruction, inspire no noble sentiment, nor move one tender passion. „I mentioned, says he Shakespeare that mighty genius, whose sentiments can never be exhausted, and in whom new beauties are discovered at every view. That you may derive yet greater delight and advantage from the representation of his pieces, I will read you some historical and critical notes, that I have been making during twenty years, after having read the first edition of his works, and every commentator, that has either illustrated, or obscured his meaning. The old gentleman then taking out and wiping his spectacles, opened his bureau and produced the manuscripts.“ I am now, said he, about to confer a favour upon you, which I

do not yet intend for any other for as I shall continually enlarge this work, it will not be printed till I am dead.“ He then began to read, and John sat very silent, regaling himself with the anticipation of his own finery, the dexterity of the wire dancer, and the variety of the savages, that he was to visit in London. The old gentleman, who imagined, that he was held motionless with attention, wonder, and delight, proceeded long in his lecture without once adverting to John for his explicit eulogium. But at the end of a favourite passage, which closed with a distich of his own poetry, he ventured to steal his eyes from the paper, and glancing them upon John, perceived, that he was fast asleep with his mouth open and the Bank note in his hand. Friendly after having gazed upon him a few moments with the utmost astonishment and indignation, snatched away the note, and having roused him with a denunciation of resentment, he thrust him out of the room and shut the door upon him.

Alcander and Septimius a Story.

Athens, long after the decline of the Ro_ man empire, still continued the seat of learning, politeness, and wisdom.

Theodric, the Ostrogoth, repaired the schools, which barbarity was suffering to fall into decay, and continued those pensions to men of learning, which avaricious governors had monopolized. In this city, and about this period Alcander and Septimius were fellow-students together: the one, the most subtle reasoner of all the Lyceum; the other the most eloquent speaker in the Academic Grove. Mutual admiration soon begot a friendship. Their fortunes were nearly equal, and they were natives of the two most celebrated cities in the world; for Alcander was of Athens, Septimius came from Rome.

In this state of harmony they lived for some time together, when Alcander, after passing the first part of his youth in the indolence of Philosophy, thought at length of entering into the busy world; and as a step previous to this, pla-

ced his affections on Hypathia, a lady of exquisite beauty. The day of their intended nuptials was fixed, the previous ceremonies were performed; and nothing now remained, but her being conducted in triumph to the apartment of the intended bridegroom. Alcander's exultation in his own happiness, or being unable to enjoy any satisfaction without making his friend Septimius a partner, prevailed upon him to introduce Hypathia to his fellow-student; which he did with all the gaiety of a man, who found himself equally happy in friendship and love.

But this was an interview fatal to the future peace of both; for Septimius no sooner saw her, but he was smitten with an involuntary passion; and, though he used every effort to suppress desires at once so imprudent, and unjust, the emotions of his mind in a short time became so strong, that they brought on a fever, which the physicians judged incurable.

During this illness, Alcander watched him with all the anxiety of fondness, and brought his mistress to join in those aimable offices of friendship. The sagacity of the physicians, by these means, soon discovered, that the cause of their patient's disorder, was love: and Alcander, being aprized of their discovery, at length

exorted a confession from the reluctant dying lover.

It would but delay the narrative to describe the conflict between love and friendship in the breast of Alcander on this occasion, it is enough to say, that the Athenians were at that time arrived at such refinement in morals, that every virtue was carried to excess. In short, forgetful of his own felicity, he gave up his intended bride, in all her charms, to the young Roman. They were married privately by his connivance, and this unlooked for change for fortune wrought as unexpected a change in the constitution of the now happy Septimius. In a few days he was perfectly recovered, and set out with his fair partner for Rome. Here, by an exertion of those talents, which he was so eminently possessed of, Septimius, in a few years, arrived at the highest dignities of the state, and was constituted the city judge or praetor.

In the mean time Alcander not only felt the pain of being separated from his friend and his mistress, but a prosecution was also commenced against him by the relations of Hypathia, for having basely given up his bride, as was suggested, for money. His innocence of the crime laid to his charge, and even his eloquence in his

own defence, were not able to withstand the influence of a powerful party. He wast cast, and condemned to pay an enormous fine. However, being unable to raise so large a sum at the time appointed, his possessions were confiscated, he himself was stripped of the habit of freedom, exposed as a slave in the marketplace, and sold to the highest bidder.

A merchant of Thrace becoming his purchaser, Alcander, with some other companions of distress, was carried into that region of desolation and sterility. His stated employment was to follow the herds of an imperious master, and his success in hunting was all that was allowed him to supply his precarious subsistence. Every morning waked him to a renewal of toil, and every change of season served but to aggravate his unscheltered distress. After some years of bondage, however an opportunity of escaping offered; he embraced it with ardour; so that travelling by night, and lodging in caverns by day, to shorten a long story, he at last arrived in Rome. The same day on which Alcander arrived, Septimius sat administering justice in the Forum, wither our wanderer came, expecting to be instantly known and publicly acknowledged by his former friend. Here he stood the whole day among the crowd, watching the eyes of the judge,

and expecting to be taken notice of, but he was so much altered by a long succession of hardships that he continued unnoted among the rest; and in the evening, when he was going up to the praetor's chair, he was brutally repulsed by the attending lictors.

The attention of the poor is generally driven from one ungrateful object to an other; for night coming on, he now found himself under a necessity of seeking a place to be in, and yet knew not where to apply. All emaciated, and in rags, as he was, none of the citizens would harbour so much wretchedness, and sleeping in the streets might be attended with interruption or danger: in short he was obliged to take up his lodging in one of the tombs without the city, the usual retreat uf guilt, poverty and despair. In this mansion ef horror, laying his head upon an inverted urn, he forgot his miseries for a while in sleep; and found, on his flinty couch, more ease, than beds of down can supply to the guilty. As he continued here, about midnight two robbers came to make this their retreat; but happening to disagree about the division of their plunder, one of them stabbed the other to the heart, and left him weltering in blood at the entrance. In these circumstances he was found next morning dead at the mouth of the vault.

This naturally inducing a further inquiry; an alarm was spread; the cave was examined; and Alcander, being found, was immediately apprehended and accused of rubbery and murder. The circumstances against him were strong, and the wretchedness of his appearance confirmed suspicion. Misfortune and he were now so long acquainted, that he at last became regardless of life. He detested a world, where he had found only ingratitude, falsehood, and cruelty; he was determined to make no defence, and thus, lowering with resolution, he was dragged, bound with cords before the tribunal of Septimius. As the proofs were positive against him, and he offered nothing in his own vindication, the judge was proceeding to doom him to a most cruel and ignominious death, when the attention of the multitude was soon divided by an other object. The robber, who had been really guilty, was apprehended, selling his plunder, and, struck with a panic had confessed his crime. He was brought bound to the same tribunal, and acquitted every other person of any partnership in his guilt. Alcander's innocence therefore appeared, but the sullen rashness of his conduct remained a wonder to the surrounding multitude. But their astonishment was still further increased, when they saw their judge start from his tribunal to embrace the supposed criminal; Septimius recollected

his friend and his former benefactor and hung upon his neck with tears of pity and joy. Need the sequel be related?

Alcander was acquitted; shared the friendship and honours of the principal citizens of Rome lived afterwards in happiness and ease; and left it to be engraved on his tomb. That no circumstances are so desperate, which Providence may not relieve.

Basilius Valentinus and his Family a Story.

Basilius Valentinus was a person, who had arrived at the utmost perfection in the Hermetic art, and initiated his son Alexandrinus in the same mysteries. But as these were not thought to be attained, but by the painful, the pious, the chaste and pure of heart; Basilius did not open to him, because of his youth and the deviations too natural to it, the greatest secrets of which he was master, as well knowing, that the operations would fail in the hands of a man so liable to

errors in life as Alexandrinus was. However believing from an indisposition of Mind as well as body, his dissolution was drawing nigh, he called Alexandrinus to him, and as he lay on a Couch, over against which his son was sitting, and prepared by sending out servants one after an other and admonition to examine, that no-one overheard them, he revealed, the most important of his secrets with the solemnity and language of an adept. My son, said he, many have been the watchings, long the lucubrations, constant the labours of thy father, not only to gain a great and plentiful estate to his posterity, but also to take care, that he should have no posterity. Be not amazed, my child; I do not mean that thou shalt be taken from me, but that I will never leave thee and consequently cannot be said to have posterity. Behold, my dearest Alexandrinus, the effect of what was propagated in nine months. We are not to contradict nature but to follow and to help her; just as long as an infant is in the womb of its parent so long are these medicines of revification in preparing. Observe this small phial and this little gallipot, in this an ungent in the other a liquor. In these my child are collected such powers, as shall revive the springs of life when they are yet but just ceased, and give new strength, new spirits, and in a word wholly restore all the organs and sen-

ses of the human body to as great a duration, as it had before enjoyed from its birth to the day of the application of these my medicines. But my beloved son, care must be taken to apply them within ten hours after the breath is out of the body, while yet the clay is warm with its late life, and yet capable of resuscitation.

I find my frame grown crasy with perpetual toil and meditation, and I conjure you, as soon as I am dead, to anoint me with this ungent, and when you see me begin to move, pour into my lips this inestimable liquor, else the force of the ointment will be ineffectual. By this means you will give me life as I have you, and we will from that hour mutually lay aside the authority of having bestowed life on each other, but live as brethern, and prepare new medicines against such an other period of time as will demand an other application of the same restoratives. In a few days after these wounderful ingredients were delivered to Alexandrinus, Basilius departed this life. But such was the pious sorrow of the son at the loss of so excellent a father, and the first transports of grief had so wholly disabled him from all manner of business, that he never thought of the medicines till the time to which his father had limited their efficacy was expired. To tell the truth Alexandrinus was a man

of wit and pleasure, and considered his father had lived out his natural time, his life was long and uniform, suitable to the regularity of it; but that he himself poor sinner, wanted a new life, to repent of a very bad one hitherto; and in the examination of his heart, resolved to go on as he did with this natural being of his, but repent very faithfully and spend very piously the life to which he should be restored by application of these rarities, when the time should come to his own person.

It has been observed, that providence frequently punishes the self-love of men, who would do immoderately for their own offspring, with children very much below their characters and qualifications, inso much, that they only transmit their names to be born by those, who give daily proofs of the vanity of the labour and ambition of their progenitors.

It happened thus in the family of Basilius; for Alexandrinus began to enjoy his ample fortune in all the extremities of household expence, furniture and insolent equipage; and this he pursued till the day of his own departure began, as he grew sensible, to approach. As Basilius was punished with a son very unlike him Alexandrinus was visited with one of his own

disposition. It is naturel, that ill men should be suspicious, and Alexandrinus, besides that jealousy, had proofs of the vitious disposition of his son Renatus for that was his name. Alexandrinus, as I observed, having very good reasons for thinking it unsafe to trust the real secret of his phial and gally-pot to any man living, projected to make sure work, and hope for his success depending from the avarice, not the bounty of his benefactor.

With this thought he called Renatus to his bedside, and bespoke him in the most pathetik gesture and accent. As much, my son, as you have been addicted to vanity and pleasure, as I also have been before you, you nor I could ascape the fame or the good effects of the profound knowledge of our progenitor, the renowned Basilius. His symbol is very well known in the philosophic world, and I shall never forget the venerable air of his countenance, when he let me into the profound mysteries of the Smaragdine Table of Hermes. It is true, said he, and far removed from all colour of deceit, that which is inferior is like that which is superior, by which are acquired and perfected all the miracles of a certain work. The father is the sun, the mother the moon, the wind is the womb, the earth is the nurse of it and mother

of all perfection. All this must be received with modesty and wisdom. The chemical people carry in all their jargon a whimsical sort of piety, which is ordinary with great lovers of money and is no more but deceiving themselves, that their regularity and strictness of manners for the ends of this world, has some affinity to the innocence of heart which must recommend them to the next. Renatus wondered to hear his father talk so like an adept, and with such a mixture of piety, while Alexandrinus, observing his attention fixed, proceeded. This phial, child and this little earthern pot will add to thy estate so much, as to make thee the richest man in the whole kingdom. I am going to my long home, but shall not return to common dust. Then he resumed a countenance of alacrity, and told him, that if within an hour after his death he anointed his whole body, and poured down his throat that liquor, which he had from old Basilius, the corps would he converted into pure gold. I will not pretend to express to you the unfeigned tenderness, that passed between these two extraordinary persons; but if the father recommended the care of his remains with whemance and affection, the Son was not behind hand in professing, that he would not cut the least bit of him, but upon te utmost extremity, or to provide for his younger brothers and sisters. Well Alexandrinus

died and the heir of his body (as our term is) could not forbear in the wantoness of his heart, to measure the length and breadth of his beloved father and cast up the ensuing value of him, before he proceeded to operation. When he knew the immense reward of his pains, he began the work. But lo! when he had anointed the corps all over, and began to apply the liquor, the body stirred, and Renatus, in a fright, broke the phial.

Eastern

Tales and Visions.

Part The Second.

Complaisance and its benefits.
Shacabac an Arabian Tale.

Complaisance renders a superior aimable, an equal agreable, and an inferior acceptable. It smoothes distinction, sweets conversation and makes every one in the company pleased with himself. It produces good nature and mutual benevolence, encourages the timorous, soothes the turbulent, humanises the fierce and distinguishes a society of civilized persons from a confusion of savages. In a word, complaisance is a virtue, that blends all orders of men together in a friendly intercourse of words and actions, and is suited to that equality in human nature, which every one ought to consider, so far as is consistent with the order and oeconomy of the world. If we could look into the secret anguish and affliction of every man's heart, we should often find,

that more of it arises from little imaginary distresses, such as checks, frowns, contradictions, expressions of contempt, and what Skakespeare reckons among other evils under the sun

— The poor man's contumely
The insolence of office, and the spurns
That patient merit of the unworthy takes.

than from the more real pains of calamities of life.

The only method to remove these imaginary distresses as much as possihle out of human life, would be the universal practice of such an ingenuous complaisance as has been described, which as a virtue, may be defined to be a constant endeavour to please those, whom we converse with, so far as we may do it innocently.

I shall here add, that I know nothing so effectual to raise a Man's fortune as complaisance, which recommends more to the favour of the great, than wit, knowledge, or any other talent whatsoever. These eonsiderations will be very prettily illustrated by a little wild Arabian Tale, which shall be here abridged for the sake of the reader, after having again warned him, that we do not recommend to him such an im-

pertinent or vicious complaisance as is not consistent with honour and integrity.

Shacabac being reduced to great poverty and having eat nothing for two days together, made a visit to a noble Barmecida in Persia, who was very hospitable but withal a great humourist, the Barmecide was sitting at his table, that seemed ready covered for an entertainment. Upon hearing Shacabac's complaint, he desired him to sit down and fall on. He then gave him an empty plate and asked him how he liked his Rice-soup. Shacabac, who was a man of wit, and resolved to comply, with the Barmecide in all his humours, told him it was admirable, and at the same time, in imitation of the other, lifted up the emply spoon to his month with great pleasure. The Barmecide then asked him if he ever saw whiter bread? Shacabac, who saw neither bread nor meat said, if I did not like it, you may be sure I would not eat so heartily of it. You oblige me mightily reply'd the Barmecide, pray let me help you to this leg of goose. Shacabac reached out his plate and received nothing on it with great cheerfulness. As he was eating very heartily on this imaginary goose, and crying up the sauce to the skies, the Barmecide desired him to keep a corner of his Stomach for a roasted lamb, fed with Pistacho-nuts, and

after having call'd for it, as tho' it had really been served up, here is a dish, says he, that you will see at no body's table but my own. Shacabac was wonderfully delighted with the taste of it, which is like nothing, says he, I ever eat before. Several other nice dishes were served up in idea, which both of them commended and feasted on after the same manner Shacabac at length, being corteously reproached by the Barmicede, that he had no stomach, and that he eat nothing, and at the same time, being tired, with moving his jaws up and down to no purpose, desired to be excused, for that really he was so full, he could not eat a bit more. Come then, says the Barmecide, the cloth shall be removed, and you shall taste of my wines, which I may say, without vanity, are the best in Persia. He then filled both their glasses out of an empty decanter. Shacabac would have excused himself from drinking so much at once, because he said he was a little quarrelsome in his liquor, however being pressed to it, he pretended to take it off, having before hand praised the colour and afterwards the flavour. Being ply'd with two or three other imaginary bumpers of different wines equally delicious, and being a little vexed with this fantastik treat, he pretended to grow flustred and gave the Barmecide a good box on the ear, but immediately recovering himself, Sir says he, I beg

ten thousand pardons, but I told you before, that it was my misfortune to be quarrelsome in my drink.

The Barmecide could not but smile at the humour of his guest, and instead of being angry at him, I find says he, thou art a complaisant fellow and deservest to be entertain'd in my house. Since thou canst accomodate theyself to my humour, we will now eat together in good earnest.

Upon which calling for his supper, the Rice-soup the Goose, the Pistacho Lamb, the several other nice dishes with the dessert and all the variety of Persian wines were served up successively one after another; and Shacabac was feasted in reality, with those very things, which he had before been entertained with in imagination.

Fadlallah a Persian Tale.

Fadlallah was a Prince of great virtue who succeeded his father Bin-Ortoe in the king-

dom of Monsel, he reigned over his faithful subjects for some time and lived in great happiness with his beauteous Consort queen Zemrode, when there appeared at his court a young Dervis of so lively and entertaining a turn of wit, as won upon the affections of every one he conversed with. His reputation grew so fast every day, that it at last raised a Curiosity in the prince himself to see and talk with him. He did so, and far from finding, that common fame had flatter'd him, he was soon convinced, that every thing he had heard of him fell short of truth. Fadlallah immediately lost all manner of relish for the conversation of other men; and as he was every day more and more satisfied of the abilities of the stranger offered him the first post in his kingdom.

The young Dervis, after having thanked him with a very singular modesty, desired to be excused, as having made a vow never to accept of any employment, and preferring a free and independed state of life to all other conditions. The King was infinitely charmed with so great an example of moderation, and though he could not get him to engage in a life of business made him however his chief companion and first favourite. As they were one day hunting together, and happened to be separated from the rest of the

company, the Dervis entertained Fadlallah with an account of his travells and adventures. After having related to him several curiosities, which he had seen in the Indies, it was in this place, says he, that I contracted an acquaintance with an old Brachman, who was skilled in the most hidden powers of nature: he died within my arms and with his parting breath communicated to me one of the most valuable of his secrets on condition I should never reveal it to any man. The king immediately reflecting on his young favourite having refused the late offers of greatness he had made hîm, told him he presumed it was the power of making gold. No Sir, says the Dervis it is somewhat more wonderful than that; it is the power of reanimating a dead body, by flinging my own soul into it. While he was yet speaking a Doe came bounding by them; and the king, who had his bow ready, shot her through the heart, telling the Dervis, that a fair opportunity now offered for him to show his art. The young man immediately left his own body breathless on the ground, while at the same instant that of the doe was reaminated; she came to the king fawned upon him and after having play'd several wanton trickes, fell again upon the grass, at the same instant the body of the Dervis recovered its life. The king was infinitely pleased at so uncommon an operation and conjured his friend

by every thing that was sacred to comunicate it to him? The Dervis at first made some scruple of violating his promise to the dying Brachmans but told him at last, that he found he could conceal nothing from so excellent a Prince, after having therefore obliged him by an oath to secrecy, he tought him to repeat two cabalistick words, in pronouncing of which the whole secret consisted. The king, impatient to try the experiment, immediately repeated them as he had been tought and in an instant found himself in the body of the Doe. He had but little time to contemplate himself in this new being; for the treacherous Dervis shooting his own soul into the royal corps, and bending the Princes own bow against him had laid him dead on the spot, had not the king, who perceived his intent fled swiftly to the woods. The Dervis now triumphant in his villany returned to Mousel and filled the throne and bed of the unhappy Fadlallah.

The first thing he took care of, in order to secure himself in the possession of his new acquired kingdom, was to issue out a proclamation ordering his subjects to destroy all the deer in the realm. The king had perished among the rest, had he not avoided his pursuers by reanimating the body of a Nightingale which he saw lie dead at the foot of a tree. In this new shape

he winged his way in safety to the palace, where perching on a tree, which stood near the Queens apartment, he filled the whole place with so many melodious and melancholy Notes, as drew her to the window. He had the mortification to see, that instead of being pitied, he only moved the mirth of his Princess and of a young female slave, who was with her. He continued however to serenade her every Morning till at last the Queen charmed with his harmonys, sent for the bird-catchers and ordered them to employ their utmost skill to put that little creature into her possession. The king pleased with an opportunity of being once more near his beloved consort easily suffered himself to be taken; and when he was presented to her, though he shewed a fearfulness to be touched by any of the other ladies, flew of his own accord and hid himself in the Queen's bosom. Zemroude was highly pleased at the unexpected foundness of her new favourite, and ordered him to be kept in an open cage in her own apartment. He had there an opportunity of making his court to her every morning, by a thousand little actions, which his shape allowed him. The Queen passed away whole hours every day in hearing and playing with him. Fadlallah could even have thought himself happy in this state of life, had he not frequently endured the inexpressible torment of seeing the

Dervis enter the apartment and caress his Queen even in his present.

The usurper, amidst his toying with the princess, would often endeavour to ingratiate himself with the Nightingale; and while the enraged Fadlallah peck'd at him with his bill, beat his wings, and shewed all the marks of an impetent rage, it only afforded his rival and the Queen new matter for their diversion.

Zemroude was like wise fond of a little lapdog, which she kept in her apartment and which one night happened to die.

The king immediately found himself inclined to quit the shape of the Nightingale, and enliven this new body. He did so, and the next morning Zemroude saw her favourite, bird lie dead in the Cage. It is impossible to express her grief on this occasion, and when she called to mind all its little actions, which even appeared to have some what in them like reason, she was inconsolable for her loss. Her women immediately sent for the Dervis to come and comfort her, who after having in vain represented to her the weakness of being grieved at such an accident, touched at last by her repeated complaints: Well Madame, says he, I will exert the utmost of my Art to please you. Your Nightingale shall again re-

vive every morning and serenade to you as before. The Queen beheld him with a look, which easely shewed, she did not believe; when laying himself down on a Sofa, he shot his soul into the Nightingale and Zemroude was amazed to see her bird revive. The King, who was a spectator of all that passed, lying under the shape of a lap-dog, in one corner of the room, immediately recovered his own body, and running to the Cage with the utmost indignation twisted of the neck of the false Nightingale. Zemroude was more than ever amazed and concerned at this second accident, till the king entreating her related to her the whole adventure. The body of the Dervis which was found dead in the wood, and the Edict for killing all the Dear, left her no room to doubt of the truth of it: But the Story adds, that out of an extreem delicacy (peculiar to the oriental ladies) she was so highly afflicted at the innocent adultry, in which she had for some time lived with the Dervis, that no arguments even from Fadlallah himself could compose her mind. She shortly after died with Grief, begging his pardon with her latest breath, for what the most rigid justice could not have interpreted as a crime. The King was so afflicted with her death, that he left his kingdom to one of his nearest relations, and passed the rest of his days in solitude and retirement.

The value of life fixed by hope and fear an Eastern Story.

Almet, the Dervise, who watched, the sacred lamp in the sepulchre of the Prophet, as he one day rose up from the devotions of the morning, which he had performed at the gate of the temple with his body turned towards the east, saw before him a man, in splendid apparel, attended by a long retinue, who gazed stedfastly at him, with a look of mornful complacense, and seemed desirous to speak, but unwilling to offend.

The Dervise, after a short silence, advanced,and saluting him with the calm dignity, which independence confers upon humility, requested, that he would reveal his purpose. „Almet“ said the stranger“ thou seest before thee a man, 'whom the hand of prosperity, has overwhelmed with wretchedness. Whatever I once desired as the means of happiness I now possess; but I am not happy and therefore I despair, I regret the lapse of time, because it glides away without enjoyment; and as I expect nothing in the future but the vanities of the past, I do not wish, that the future should arrive. Yet I tremble lest it should

be cut of; and my heart sinks, when I anticipate the moment, in which eternity shall close over the vacuity of my life, like the sea upon the pass of a ship, and leave no traces of my existence more durable than the furrow, which remains after the waves have united. If in the treasures of thy wisdom, there is any precept for obtaining felicity, vouchafe it to me; for this purpose I am come, a purpose, which yet I feared to reveal, lest like all the former it should be disappointed.“

Almet listened, with looks of astonishment and pity, to this complaint of a being, in whom reason was known to be a pledge of immortality; but the serenity of his countenance soon returned; and stretching out his hand towards heaven „stranger,“ said he the knowledge, which I have recieved from the Prophet, I will communicate to thee.“

As I was sitting one evening at the temple pensive and alone, mine eye wandered among the multitude, that was scattered before me; and while I remarked the weariness and solicitude, which was visible in every countenance, I was suddenly struck, with a sense of their condition. Wretched mortals, said I, to what purpose are you busy? if to produce happiness by whom is it enjoyed? Do the linens of Egypt, and the silks of Persia,

bestow felicity on those, who wear them? Is the fineness of the texture, or the splendor of the tints, regarded with delight, by those to whom custom has rendered them familiar? or can the power of habit render others insensible of pain, who live only to traverse the desart; a scene of dreadful uniformity, where a barren level is bounded only by the horizon; where no change of prospect, or variety of images, relieves the traveller from a sense of toil and danger, of whirlwinds, which in a moment may burry him in the sand and of thirst, which the wealthy have given half their possessions to allay. Do those on whom hereditary diamonds sparkle with unregarded lustre, gain from the possession, what is lost by the wretsh, who seeks them in the mine; who lives excluded from the common bounties of nature; to whom even the vicissitude of day and night is not known; who sighs in perpetual darkness, and whose life is one murnful alteration of insensibility and labour? If those also are not happy, who possess, how vain a dream is then the life of man!

While my though were thus multiplied, and my heart burned within me, I became sensible of a sudden influence from above. The streets and the crowds of Mecca disappeared; I found myself sitting on the declivity of a mountain, and perceived

at my right hand an angel, whom I knew to be Azosan minister of reproof. When I saw him, I was afraid. I cast mine eye upon the ground, and was to deprecate his anger, when he commanded me to be silent. „Almet, said he, thou hast devoted they life to meditation, that thy counsel might deliver ignorance from the mazes of error, and deter presumption from the precipice of guilt, but the book of nature thou hast read, without understanding; it is again open before thee; look up, consider it and be wise.“

I looked up and beheld an inclosure, beautiful as the gardens of Paradise, but of a small extent, through the middle, there was a green walk; at the end, a wild desart; and beyond impenetrable darkness. The walk was shaded with trees of every kind, that were covered at once with blossoms and fruit, innumerable birds were singing in the branches; the grass was intermingled with flowers, which impregnated the breeze with fragrance, and painted the path with beauty on one side flowed a gentle transparent stream, which was just heard to murmur, over the golden sands, that sparkled at the bottom; and on the other were walks and bowers, fountains, grottoes aud eascades, which diversified the scene with endless variety but did not conceal the bounds.

While I was gazing in a transport of delight and wonder on this enchanting spot, I perceived a man stealing along the walk with a thoughtful and deliberat pace; his eyes were fixed upon the earth, and his arms crossed on his bosom; he sometimes started as if a sudden pang had seized him, his countename expressed solicitude aud terror; he looked round with a sigh, and having gazed a moment on the desart that lay before him, he seemed as if he wished to stop, but was impelled forward by some invisible power; his features however soon settled again into a calm melancholy; his eye was again fixed as before, with apparent reluctance, but without emotion. I was struk with this appearance, and turning hastily to the Angel; was about to enquire what could produce such infelicity in a being, surrounded, with every object, that could gratify every sense; but he prevented my request; „The book of nature is said he before thee, look up, consider it and be wise.

I looked and beheld a valley between two mountains that were craggy and barren; on the path there was no verdure, and the mountains afforded no shade, the sun burned in the zenith and every spring was dried up, but the valley terminated in a country, that was pleasant and fertil shaded with woods and adorned with buil-

dings. At a second view I discovered a man in this valley meager indeed and naked but his countenance was cheerful and his deportment active: he kept his eye fixed upon the country before him, and looked as he would have run, but that he was restrained by some secret influence; sometimes indeed, I perceived a sudden expression of pain but the sprightliness of his countenance instantly returned, and he pressed forward without appearance of repining or complaint. I turned again toward the Angel impatient to enquire from him that in which it might have been expected: but he again prevented my request.

Almet „said he" remember, what thou hast seen, and let this memorial be written upon the tablets of thy heart. Remember, Almet, that the world in which thou art placed, is but the road to another; and that happiness depends not upon the path, but the end: the value of this period of thy exsistence is fixed by hope and fear. The wretch, who wished to linger in the garden, who looked round upon its limits with terror was destitute of enjoyment, because he was destitute of hope and was perpetually tormented by the dread of losing that, which yet he did not enjoy. But he that toiled through the valley was happy, because he looked forward with hope. Thus to the sejourner upon earth it is of little moment,

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whether the path he treads be struded with thorns, if he perceives himself to approach those regions in comparison with which the thorns and the flowers of this wilderness lose their distinction- That which can alone make every station happy and without which every station in life must be wretched is acquired by virtue.

While the voice of Azoran was yet sounding in my years the prospect vanished from before me, and I found myself again sitting at the porch of the temple. The sun was gone down, the multitude was retired to rest, and the solemn quiet of midnight concurred with the resolution of my doubts to complete the tranquility of my mind.

Such my son, was the vision, which the Prophet vouchafed me, not for my sake only, but for thine. Thou hast thought felicity in temporal things, and, therefore, thou art disappointed. Let not instruction be lost upon thee, but go thy way, let thy flock cloth the naked and the table fed the hungry and deliver the poor from opression. Thus shalt thou rejoice in hope and look forward to the end of life as the approach of thy felicity.

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Religion the only foundation of Content an Eastern Story.

Omar, the Hermit of the mountain Anbukabis, which rises on the east of Mecca and overlooks the city, found one evening a man sitting pensive and alone within a few paces of his cell. Omar regarded him with attention, and perceived that his looks were wild and haggard and that his body was feeble and emaciated. „Son of affliction said Omar, who art thou and what is thy distress? My name replied the stranger is Hasan, and I am a native of this city, the angel of adversity has laid his hand upon me; and the wretch whom thine eye compassionates, thou canst not deliver.“ „To deliver thee said Omer“ belongs to him only from whom we should receive with humility both good aud evil; yet hide not thy grief from me, for the burthen, which I can not remove, I may at least enable thee to sustain. Hassan fixed his eyes upon the ground! then fetching up a deep sigh, he looked up at the hermit and thus began.

'Tis now six years, since our mighty lord the Caliph Amolie first came privately to worship in the temple of the holy city. In the intervals

of his devotion, he went about the city, relieving distress, and restraining oppression, the widow smiled under his protection, and the weakness of age and infancy was sustained by his bounty. I, who dreaded no evil but sickness and expected no good beyond the reward of my labour was singing at my work when Almalic entered my dwelling. He looked round with a smile of complacency; perceiving, that though it was mean it was neat, and that though I was poor, I appeared to be content. As his habit was that of a pilgrim, I hastned to receive him with such hospitality as was in my power; and my cheerfulness was rather increased than restrained by his presense. After he had accepted some Coffee, he asked me many questions, and though by my answers I always endeavoured to excite him to mirth, yet I perceived, that he grew thoughtful, and eyed me with a placid but fixed attention. I suspected, that he had some knowledge of me and therefore inquired his country and his name.

„Hassan said he, I have raised thy curiosity, and it shall be satisfied, he who now talkes with thee is Almalic the sovereign of the faithful.“ These words struck me dumb with astonishment; though I had some doubt of their truth, but Almalic, throwing back his garment discovered the peculiarity of his rest and put the royal signet

upon his finger. I then started up and was about to prostrate myself before him, but he prevented me: „Hasan," said he, forbear; thou art greater than I and from thee I have at once derived humility and wisdom." I answered, „Mock not thy servant, who is but a worm before thee life and death are in thy hand and happiness and misery are the daughters of thy will." Hassan, he replied, „I can no other wise give life or happiness, than by not taking them away: thou art thyself beyond the reach of my bounty, and possessed of felicity which I can neither communicate nor obtain, By the Bowstring, I can repress violence and fraud; and by the delegation of power, I can transfer the insatiable wishes of avarice and ambition from one object to an other, but with respect to virtue I am impotent: if I could reward it I would reward it in thee. Thou art content and hast therefore neither avarice nor ambition: to exalt thee would destroy the simplicity of thy life and diminish that happiness, which I have no power either to increase or to continue." He then rose up, and commanding me not to disclose his secret, departed.

As soon as I recovered from the confusion and astonishment in which the Caliph left me, I began to regret, that my hehaviour had intercepted his bounty; and accused that cheerfulness as

folly, which was the concomitant of folly and labour. I now began to repine at the obscurity of my station, I neglected my labour, because I despised the reward which it can offer; I spent the day in idleness forming romantic projects to recover the advantages, which I had lost, and my health was at length impaired by the inquietude of my mind. In the first moon of the following year the Caliph came again to Mecca, with the same secrecy, and for the same purposes. He was willing once more to see the man, whom he considered as deriving felicity from himself.

But he found me not singing at my work, ruddy with health and vivid with cheerfulness, but pale and dejected, sitting on the ground and chewing opium, which contributed to substitute the phantoms of imagination for the realities of greatness. He entered, with a kind of joyful impatience in his countenance, which the moment he beheld me, was changed to a mixture of wonder and pity. I had often wished for another opportunity to address the Caliph, yet I was confounded at his presence, and throwing myself at his feet I laid my hand upon my head and was speechless.

„Hassan, said he, what canst thou have lost, whose wealth was the labour of thy hand;

and what can have made thee sad, the spring of whose joy was in thy own bosom? What evil has befallen thee? Speak, and if I can remove it, thou art happy.“

I was now encouraged to look up, and replied „Let my Lord forgive the presumption of his servant. I am become wretched by the loss of that, which I never possessed; thou hast raised wishes; which indeed I am not worthy thou shouldst satisfy.“ When I had finished this speech Almalic stood some moments in suspense. Hassan „said he“ I perceive not with indignation but regret, that I mistook thy character; I now discover avarice and ambition in thy heart, which lay torpid only because their objects were too remote to rouze them. I can not therefore divest thee with authority, because I would not suhject my people to oppression; and because I would not be compelled to punish thee for crimes, which I first enabled thee to commit. But I will however at least gratify the wishes, that I have excited, arise therefore and follow me.“ I sprong from the ground as it were with the wings of an eagle and when I went out of my house my heart leaped as if I had escaped from the den of a lion. I followed Almalic to the Caravansera in which he lodged, and after he had fulfilled his vows: he took me with him to Medina. He

gave me an apartment in the Seraglio; I was attended by his own servants; my provisions were sent from his own table, and I received every week a sum from his treasury, which exceeded the most romantic of my expectations. But I soon discovered that no dainty was so tasteful as the food to which labour procured an appetite; no slumber so sweet, as those which weariness invited, and no time so well enjoyed as that in which diligence is expecting its reward. I remembered these enjoyments, with regret; and while I was sighing in thc midst of superfluities, which though encumbred life, yet I could not give up, thy were sudenly taken away, Almalic, in the midst of the glory of his kingdom, and in the full vigour of his life expired sudenly in his bath.

His son Anbubeker, who succeeded to the throne, was incensed against me, by some, who regarded me at once with contempt and envy: he suddenly withdrew my pension, and commanded that I should be expelled the palace; a command, which my enemies executed with so much rigour, that within twelf hours, I found myself in the streets of Medina, indigent and friendless, exposed to hunger and derision, with all the habits of luxury and all the sensibility of pride. I have travelled from Medina to Mecca, but I can not fly from myself. How different are the states in

which I have been placed! The remembrance of both is bitter; for the pleasure of neither can return. Hassan, having ended his story, smote his hands together and looking upward burst into tears.

Omar, having waited till his agony was past, went to him, and taking him by the hand. „My son, said he,“ more is yet in thy power than Almalic could give, or Anbubeker take away. The lesson of thy life the Prophet has in mercy appointed me to explain. „Thou wast once content with powerty and labour, only because they were become habitual, and ease and affluence were placed beyond thy hope; for when ease and affluence approached thee, thou wast content with poverty and labour no more. That which then became the object, was also the bound of thy hope; and he, whose utmost hope is dissapointed must inevitably be wretched. The content, which was once enjoyed was but the lethargy of the soul, and the distress, which is now suffered, will but quicken it to action. Depart, therefore, and be thankful for all things; put thy trust in Him, who alone can gratify the wish of reason and satisfy the soul with good: fix thy hope upon that portion, in comparison of which the world is as the drop of the bucket and the dust of the balance. Return my son, to thy labours thy food

shall be again tasteful, and thy rest shall be sweet: to thy content also will be added stability, when it depends not upon that, which is possessed upon earth but upon that, which is expected in Heaven.

Benevolence urged from the misery of Solitude: an Eastern Story.

Carazan, the merchant of Bagdat, was eminent, throughout all the East for his avarice and his wealth: his origin was obscure; and the patient labour of persevering diligence alone had made him rich. It was remembered, that when he was indigent he was thought to be generous; and he was still acknowledged to be inexorably just. But whether in his dealings with men he discovered a perfidy, which tempted to put his trust in gold, or whether in proportion as he accumulated wealth he discovered his own importance, to increase, Carazan, prized it more as he used it less; he gradually lost the inclination to do good, as he acquired the power, and as the hand of time scattered snow upon his head, the freezing influence extended to his bosom. But

though the door of Carazan was never opened by hospitality, nor his hand by compassion, yet fear led him constantly to the mosque at the stated hours of prayer, and he performed all the rites of devotion with the most scrupulous punctuality. That devotion, which arises from the Love of God, and necessarily includes the Love of Man, as it connects gratitude with beneficence, confers new dignity upon goodness, justly is the object of affection and reverence. On the contrary the devotion of the selfish, never fails to excite indignation. Carazan therefore, when he had locked his door, and turning round with a look of circumspective suspicion proceeded to the mosque, was followed by every eye with silent malignity and though he was known by every man no man saluted him. Such had long been the life of Carazan and such was the character, which he had acquired, when notice was given by proclamation, that he was removed to a magnificent building in the centre of the city, that his table should be spread for the public, and that the stranger should be welcome to his bed. The multitude soon began to rush to his door like a torrent, where they beheld him distributing bread to the hungry and apparel to the naked, his eye softened with compassion and his cheek were glowing with delight. Every one gazed with astonishment at the prodigy, when Carazan becko-

ned with his hand; attention suspended the tumult for a moment, and he thus gratified the couriosity, which had procured him audience.

To Him, who touches the mountains and they smoke, The Almighty and the most Merciful, be everlasting honour! he has ordained sleep to be the minister of instruction, and his vision has reproved me in the night. As I was sitting alone in my Haram with my lamp burning before me, computing the product of my merchandize, and exulting in the increase of my wealth, I fell into a deep sleep, and the hand of him, who dwells in the third heaven was upon me. I felt myself lifted from the ground, and transported with astonishing rapidity through the regions of the air. The earth was contracted to an atom beneath; and the stars glowed round me with a lustre, that obscured the sun.

The gate of Paradise, was now in sight; and I was intercepted by a sudden brightness, which no human eye could behold: the irrevocable sentence was now to be pronounced: and from the evil of my life nothing could be taken away, nor could any thing be added to the good. When I reflected, that my lot for eternity was cast, which not all the powers of nature could reverse,

my confidence totally forsook me; and while I stood trembling and silent covered with confusion and chilled with horror, I was thus addressed by the radiance that flamed before me. „Carazan, thy worship has not been accepted, because it was not prompted by Love of God: neither can thy righteousness be rewarded, because it was not produced by Love of Man. For thy own sake only hast thou rendered every man his due; and thou hast approached the Almighty only for thyself. Thou hast not looked up with gratitude nor round thee with kindness. Around thee, thou hast indeed, beheld vice and folly but if vice and folly could justify thy parsimony, would they not condemn the bounty of heaven. If not upon the foolish and the vicious, where shall the sun diffuse his light, or the clouds distill their dew? Remember, Carazan, that thou hast shut compassion from thine heart and grasped thy treasures with a hand of iron: thou hast lived for thyself; and therefore, hence forth thou shall subsist alone. From the light of heaven and from the society of all beings, shalt thou be driven; solitude shall portrait the lingering hours of eternity and darkness aggravate the horrors of despair.“

At this moment I was driven by some secret and irresistible power through the glowing system of creation and passed immunerable worlds in a

moment. As I approached the verge of nature, I perceived, the shadows of total and boundless vacuity deepen before me, a dreadful region of eternal silence, solitude and darkness! Unutterable horror seized me at the prospect; I then lost sight of the remotest star, and the last glimmering of light was quenched in utter darkness. The agonies of despair every moment increased, as every moment augmented my distance from the last habitable world. I reflected with intolerable anguish, that I should have to look into an immense abys of darkness, without any succour and without society. I then stretched out my hand towards the regions of existence, with an emotion that awaked me. Thus have I been tought to estimate society like every other blessing by its loss. My heart is warmed to liberality and I am zealous to communicate the happiness, which I feel, to those from whom it is derived; for the society of one wretch, whom in the pride of prosperity I would have spurned from my door, would in the dreadful solitude to which I was condemned, have been more highly prized, than the gold of Afric or the gems of Goleonda.

Helim the Persian, the great Physican an Arabian Tale.

The name of Helim is still famous through all the Eastern parts of the world. He is called among the Persians even to this day, Helim the great Physician. He was acquainted with all the powers of simples, understood all the influences of the Stars, and the secrets, that were engraved on the seal of Solomon the son. Helim was also governor of the Black palace and chief of the Physicians to Alnareshin the great king of Persia. Alnareshin, was the most dreadful tyrant, that ever reigned in this country. He was of a fearful suspicious and cruel nature, having put to death upon very slight jealousis and surmises five and thirty of his Queens and above twenty sons, whom he suspected to have conspired against his life. Being at length wearied with the exercise of so many cruelties, in his own family, and fearing lest the whole race of Caliphs should be entirely lost, he one day sent for Helim and spoke to him after this manner. Helim said he, I have long admired thy great wisdom and retired way of living. I shall now show thee, the entire confidence, which

I place in thee. I have only two sons remaining, who are as yet but infants. It is my design, that thou take them home with thee and educate them as thy own. Train them up in the humble unambitious pursuits of knowledge. By this means shall the line of Caliphs be preserved and my children succeed after me without aspiring to my throne, whilst I am yet alive, The words of my Lord the king shall be obeyed, said Helim; after which he bow'd and went out of the kings presence. He then received the children into his own house and from that time bred them up with him in the studies of knowledge and virtue. The young Princes loved and respected Helim as their father, and made such improvements under him, that by the age of one and twenty they were instructed in all the learning of the east. The name of the eldest was Ibrahim and of the youngest Abdallah. They lived together in such a perfect friendship, that to this day it is said of intimate friends, that they live together like Ibrahim and Abdallah. Helim had an only Child, who was a girl of a fine soul and a most beautiful person. Her father omitted nothing in her education, that might make her the most accomplished woman of her age. As the young Princes were in a manner excluded from the rest of the world, they frequently conversed with this lovely Virgin, who had been brought up

by her father in the same course of knowledge and virtue. Abdallah, whose mind was of a softer turn, than that of his brother, grew by degrees so enamoured of her conversation, that he did not think he lived, when he was not in company with his beloved Balsora, for that was the name of the maid. The fame of her beauty was so great, that at length it came to the ears of the king, who pretending to visit the young Princes his sons, demanded of Helim the sight of Balsora his fair daughter. The king was so enflamed with her beauty and behaviour, that he sent for Helim the next morning and told him it was now his design to recompence him for all his faithful services; and that in ordre to it, he intended to make his daughter queen of Persia. Helim, who knew very well the fate of all those unhappy women, who had been thus advanced, and could not but be privy to the secret love, which Abdallah bore his daughter far be it, said he, from the king of Persia to contaminate the blood of the Caliphs, and join himself in marriage with the daughter of his physician. The king however was so impatient for such a bride, that without hearing any excuses he immediately order'd Balsora to be sent for into his presence, keeping the father with him in order to make her sensible of the honour which he designed her. Balsora, who was too modest and

humble to think her beauty had made such an impression on the king, was a few moments after brought into his presence as he had commanded. She appear'd in the kings eye as one of the virgins of Paradise. But upon hearing the honour, which he intented her, she fainted away, and fell down as dead at his feet.

Helim wept and after having recovered her out of the trance into which she was fallen, represented to the king, that so unexpected an honour was to great to have been communicated to her all at once; but that if he pleased, he would himself prepare her for it. The king bid him take his own way and dismissed him. Balsora was convey'd again to her father's house, where the thoughts of Abdallah renewed her affliction every moment; in so much, that at length she fell into a raging fever.

The king was informed of her condition by those, that saw her. Helim finding no other means of extricating her from the difficulties she was in, after having composed her mind, and made her acquainted with his intentions, gave her a certain potion, which he knew would lay her asleep for many hours; and afterwards, in all the seeming distress of a disconsolate father, informed the king she was dead. The king, who never let

any sentiments of humanity come too near his heart, did not much trouble himself about the matter; however for his own reputatiou, he told the father, that since 'twas known through the empire, that Balsora died at a time, when he designed her for his bride; it was his intention, that she should be honoured as such after her death, that her body should be laid in the black palace, among those of his deceased queens.

In the mean time Abdallah, who had heard of the kings design, was not less afflicted, than his beloved Balsora. As for the several circumstances of his distress, as also, how the king was informed of an irrevocable distemper into which he was fallen, they are to be found at length in the history of Helim.

It shall suffice here to acquaint the reader, that Helim some days after the supposed death of his daughter, gave the prince a potion of the same nature with that, which had laid asleep Balsora.

It is the custom among the Persians, to convey in a private manner the bodies of all the royal family, a little after their death, into the black palace; which is the repository of all, who are descended from the Caliphs, or any way

allied to them. The chief Physician is always governor of the Black Palace, it being his office to embalm and preserve the holy family after they are dead, as well as to take care of them while they are living. The Black Palace is so called from the colour of the building, which is all of the finest polished black marble. There are always burning in it five thousand everlasting lamps. It has also a hundred folding doors of Ebony, which are each of them watched day and night by a hundred Negroes, who are to take care, that no body enters, besides the Governor. Helim, after having convey'd the body of his daughter into this repository, and at the appointed time received her out of the sleep into which she was fallen, took care some time after to bring that of Abdallah into the same place.

Balsora watched over him, till such time as the dose he had takeu lost its effect. Abdallaa was not acquainted with Helims design when he gave him this sleepy potion. It is impossible to describe the surprize, the joy, the transport he was in at his first awakning. He fancied himself in the retirements of the blest, and that the spirit of his dear Balsora, who he thought was just gone before him, was the first, who came to congratulate his arrival. She soon informed him of the place he was in, which

nothwithstanding all its horrors appeared to him more sweet than the bower of Mahomet, in the company of his Balsora.

Helim, who was supposed to be taken up in the embalming of the bodies, visited the place very frequently. His greatest perplexity was how to get the lovers out of the gates being watched in such a manner as I have before related. This consideration did not a little disturb the two interred-lovers. At length Helim bethought himself, that the first day of the full moon, of the month Tizpa was near at hand. Now it is a received tradition among the Persians that the souls of those of the royal family, who are in a state of bliss, do, on the first full moon after their decease, pass through the eastern gate of the Black Palace, which is therefore called the gate of Paradise, in ordre to take their flight for that happy place. Helim therefore, having made due preparations for this night, dress'd each of the lovers in a robe of Azure silk, wrought in the finest looms of Persia, with a long train of linnen, whiter than snow, that floated on the ground behind them. Upon Abdallah's head he fixed a wreath of the greenest Mirtle, and on Balsora's a garland of the freshest roses. Their garments were scented with the richest perfumes of Arabia. Having thus prepared every

thing, the full moon was no sooner up, and shining in all its brightness, but he privately opened the gate of Paradise, and shut it after the same manner, as soon as they had passed through it. The band of Negroes, who were posted at a little distance from the gate, seeing two such beautiful apparations, that show'd themselves to advantage by the light of the full moon, and being ravished with the odour that flowed from their garments immediately concluded them to be the ghosts of the two persons lately deceased. They fell upon their faces, as they passed through the midst of them and continued prostrate on the earth till such time as they were out of sight. They reported the next day, what they had seen, but this was looked upon, by the king himself and most others as the compliment, that was usually paid to any of the deceased of his family. Helim had placed two of his own mules at about a Mile's distance from the black Temple, on the spot which they had agreed upon for their rendezvous. He here met them, and conducted them to one of his own houses, which was situated on mount Kahan. The air on this mountain was so very healthful, that Helim had formerly transported the king thither, in order to recover him out of a fit of sickness; which succeeded so well, that the king made him a present of the whole mountain, with a beautiful house and gardens, that were

on the top of it. In this retirement lived Abdallah and Balsora. They were both so frought with all kind of knowledge and possest with so constant aud mutual a passion for each other, that their solitude never lay heavy on them. Abdallah applied himself to those arts, which were agreable to his manner of living, and the situation of the place, insomuch, that in a few years he converted the whole mountain into a kind of garden, and covered every part of it with plantations or spots of flowers. Helim was too good a father to let him want any thing, that might conduce to make his retirement pleasant.

In about a year after their abode in this place, the old king died, and was succeeded by his son Ibrahim, who upon the supposed death of his brother, had been called to court, and entertained there as heir to the Persian empire. Though he was for some years inconsolable for the death of his brother. Helim durst not trust him with the secret, which he knew would have fatal consequences, should it by any means come to the knowledge of the old king. Ibrahim, was no sooner mounted to the throne, but Helim thought after a proper opportunity of making a discovery to him, which he knew would be very agreable to so good natured and generous a prince. It so happened, that before Helim found such an

opportunity as he desired, the new king Ibrahim having been separated from his company in a chase, and almost fainting with heat and thirst-saw himself at the foot of mount Kahan; he immediately ascended the hill and comming to Helim's house demanded some refreshments.

Helim was very luckily there at that time, and after having set before the king the choicest of wines and fruits finding him wonderfully pleased with so reasonable a treat, told him, that the best part of his entertainment was to come, upon which hc opened to him the whole history of what had past.

The king was at once astonished and transported at so strange a relation, and seeing his brother enter the room with Balsora in his hand, he leaped off from the Sofa on which he sat, and cry'd out 'tis he 'tis my Abdallah ah! — having said this he fell upon his neck and wept. The whole company, for some time remained silent and shedding tears of joy. Tbe king at length after having kindly, reproached Helim for depriving him so long of such a brother, embraced Balsora with the greatest tenderness, and told her, that she should now be a queen indeed, for that he would immediately make his brother king of all the conquer'd nations on the other side the

Tygris. He easily discovered in the eyes of our two lovers, that instead of being transported with the offer, they preferred their present retirement to an empire. At their request therefore he changed his intentions, and made them a present of all the open country, as far as they could see from the top of mount Kahan. Abdallah continued to extend his former improvements beautified, the whole prospect with groves and fountains, gardens and seats of pleasure, till it became the most delicious spot of ground within the empire, and is therefore called the garden of Persia. This Caliph Ibrahim after a long and happy reign died without children and was succeeded by Abdallah, who afterwards fixed the imperial residence upon mount Kahan, which continues to this time to be the favourite Palace of the Persian empire.

Nouraddin and Amana
The Vanity of Human Wishes.
An Eastern Tale.

Amana, the daughter of Sanbad the shepherd, was drawing water at the wells of Adail, when a Caravan, which had passed the desert, arrived, and the driver of the camels alighted to

give them drink: those, which came first to the wells belonged to Nouraddin, the merchant, who had brought fine linnen and other merchantdize of great value from Egypt, Amana, when the caravan drew near, had covered herself with her veil, which the servant of Nouraddin to gratify a brutal curiosity, attempted to withdrow.

Amana, provoked by the indignity and encouraged by the presence of others, struck him with the staff of the bucket; and he was about to retaliate the violence, when Nouraddin, who was himself with the caravan, called out to him to forbear, and immediately hasted to the well. The veil of amana had fallen off in the struggel and Nouraddin was captivated with her beauty: the lovely confusion of offended modesty, that glowed upon her cheek, the disdain, that swelled her bosom, and the resentment, that sparkled in her eyes, expressed, a consciousness of her sex, which warmed and animated her beauty. They were graces, which Nouraddin had never seen, and produced a tumult in his breast, which he had never felt; for Nouraddin, though he had now great possessions was yet a youth and stranger to woman. The merchantdize which he was transporting, had been purchased by his father, whom the angel of death had intercepted in the journey, and the sudden accession of independence

and wealth did not dispose him to restrain the impetuosity of desire; he therefore demanded Amana of her parents; his message was received with gratitude and joy: and Nouraddin after a short time carried her back to Egypt. But he delayed the solemnities of marriage till the time of mourning for his father should expire: and the gratification of a passion, which he could not suppress, was without much difficulty suspended now its object was in his power. He anticipiated the happines which he believed to be secured; and supposed that it would increase by expectation, like a treasure by usury of which more is still possessed as possession is longer delayed.

During this interval Amana recovered from the tumultuous joy of sudden elevation; her ambition was at an end and she became susceptible of love. Nouraddin, who regretted the obscurity of her birth only because it had prevented the cultivation of her mind, laboured incessantly to supply the deffect. She received his instruction not only with gratitude, but delight; while he spoke she gazed upon him with esteem and reverence and had no wish but to return the happiness, which he was impatient to bestow.

At this time Osmin the Caliph was upon the throne of Egypt. The passions of Osmin were im-

petuous as the torrents of Alared, and fatal as the whirlwind of the desart and he at that time ordered a proclamation to be made, that whoever should produce the most beautiful virgin within two days should stand in the presence of the Caliph and be deemed the third in his kingdom. Caled the servant, who had been punished by Nouraddin for having offended Amana at the well, returned with his master to Egypt: the sullen ferocity of his temper was still increased by the desire of revenge, and the gloom of discontent was deepened by despair; but when he heard the proclamation, a joy kindled in his aspect like lightening in the darkness of a storm. He knew, that she was yet a virgin and that her marriage was near; he therefore, hasted to the palace and demanded to be brought before Nardic the chief of the Seraglio, whom he informed that Amana will shortly be expoused by Nouraddin but of whose beauty the sovereign of Egypt alone is worthy. Naradic received this intelligence with transports of joy; a mandate was instantly written to Nouraddin; it was sealed with the royal signet and delivered to Caled, who returned with a force sufficient to compel obedience. On this day the mourning of Nouraddin expired, he had changed his apparel, and perfumed his person; his features were brightened with the gleadness of his heart; he had invited his friends to

the festival of his marriage, und the evening was to accomplish his wishes. The evening also was expected by Amana, with a joy, which she did not labour to suppress; aud she was hidding her blushes in the breast of Nouraddin, when Caled arrived with the mandate.

Caled proceeded to execute his commission without remorse; he was not to be moved by swooning, expostulation, entreaty, or tears; but having conducted Amana to the seraglio presented her to Nardic, with exultation and hope of reward.

Nardic, who was flattered by her stature and her shape, lifted up her veil with impatience, timidity, and solicitude: but the moment he beheld her face, his doubts were at an end. He prostrated himself before her, as a person on whose pleasure his life would from that moment depend. She was conducted to the chamber of the women and Caled was the same hour appointed Captain of the guard that kept the gates.

Nouraddin, when he recovered his sensibility and found that Amana had been conducted to the Seraglio, was seized by turns with distraction and stupidity: he passed the night in agitations, by which the powers of nature were exhausted, and in the morning he loked himself up

in the chamber of Amana and threw himself on a sofa, determined to admit no comforter and to receive no sustenance.

While Nauraddin was thus abandoned to despair, Nardic description of Amana, had roused Osmin from his apathy. He commended that she should be prepared to receive him, and soon after went alone into her apartment. Familiar as he was with beauty he could not behold Amana without emotion. The moment he approached her, she threw herself at his feet and entreated to be heard. Osmin chosing rather to indulge. Amana than resist, raised her from the ground and supporting her in his arms, encouraged her to proceed. „Let my Lord, said she, dismiss a wretch, who is not worthy of his presence, and compassionate the distress, which is not susceptible of delight. I am the daughter of a shepherd, betrothed to the merchant Nouraddin from whom my body has been forced by the perfidy of a slave and to whom my soul is uninted by indissoluble bonds. O! let not the terrors of thy frown be upon me. Shall the sovereign of Egypt for whom ten thousand languish with desire, rejoice in the sufferance of one alienated mind? „Osmin, whose breast had by turns been inflamed with desire and indignation, while he gazed up onthe beauties of Amana and

listened to her voice, now suddenly threw her from him, and departed without reply.

When he was alone, he remained a few moments in suspence but the passions, which eloquence had repressed soon became again predominant; and he commanded Amana to be told, that if within three hours she did not come prepared, he would cast the head of the slave for whom she was rejected at her feet. The messenger by whom this was delivered and the woman, who had returned to Amana when the Caliph retired, were touched with pity at her distress and trembled at her danger. The evils, which they could scarce hope to prevent, they were yet solicitous to delay; and therefore advised her to request three days of preparation, that she might sufficiently recover the tranquility of her mind and with this request to send, as a pledge of her obedience, a bowl of sherbet in which a pearl had been dissolved, and of which she had first drank herself. To this advice Amana at length consented and prepared to put it in execution. At the time when this resolution was taken, Nouraddin suddenly started from a restless slumber and exclaimed. „O that from this hour I was Osmin and Osmin Nouraddin!“ The moment he had uttered this wish, his chamber was darkened as with a thick cloud, which was at length

dissipated by a burst of thunder, and a being whose appearance was more than human stood before him. „Nouraddin said the vision, I am of the region above thee but my business is with the childern of the earth. "Thou hast wished to be Osmin that wish shall be accomplished. I will bound this talisman on thine left arm and as often as this bracelet, shall be applied to the region of thy heart, thou shalt be alternately changed in apearance from Nouraddin to Osmin and from Osmin to Nouradin." The Genius then suddenly disappeard, and Nouraddin, impatient to recover the possession of Amana, instantly applied the stud of the bracelet to his breast and the next moment found himself alone in an apartment of the seraglio. During this interval, the Caleph, who was expecting the issue of his message to Amana became restless and impatient: he quitted his apartment, and went into the gardens, where he walked backward and forward with a violent but interrupted pace; and at length stood still frowning and pensive, with his eyes fixed on the clear surface of a fountain in the middle of the walk. The agitation of his mind continued and at length broke out into this soliloquy." What is my felicity, and what is my power? I am wretched by the want of that which the caprice of woman has bestowed upon my slave. Why have I not the power to assume the form, and

to be Nouraddin? He then resigned himself to the power of imagination and was again silent, but the moment his wish was uttered, he became subject to the Genius, who had just transported Nouraddin to his palace.

His wish therefore was instantly fulfilled :and his eyes being still fixed upon the water, he perceived with sudden wonder and delight, that his figure had been changed in a moment, and that the miror of the water reflected an other image. His fancy having been heated with the ideal caresses of Amana, he hastned instantly to the palace, without reflecting, that as he would not be known, he would be refused admittance. At the door, to which he advanced with eagerness and precipitation, he was stopped by a party of the guard, that was now commanded by Caled: a tumult ensued, and Caled being hastly called, believed that Nouraddin in the phrenzy of desperation had scaled the walls of the garden to recover Amana: and rejoicing in an opportunity of revenge, instandly stabbed him with his poinnard, but at the same time received that of the Caliph in his heart. Thus fell at once the tyrant and the traitor.

In the mean time, the man, who was believed to be slain, reposed in security upon a sofa: and Amana, by the direction of her women, had

prepared the message and the bowl. They were now dispatched to the Caliph and received by Nouraddin. He understood by the message, that Amana was yet inviolated: in the joy of his heart therefore, he took the bowl, which having emptied he returned by the messenger, and commanded that Amana should be brought into his presence.

In obedience to this command, she was conducted by her women to the door, but she entered alone pale and trembling; and though her lips were forced into a smile, the characters, which grief, dread and aversion had written in her countenance, were not effaced. Nouraddin, who beheld her disorder, exulted in the fidelity of her love: he therefore applied the talisman again to his breast, and having recovered his own form would have rushed into her arms; but she started from him in confusion and terror. He smiled at the effects of the prodigy; and sustaining her on his bosom repeated some tender incidents, which were known to no other; and urged her immediately to escape, that they might possess all their desires in each other. Amana gazed at him with a fixed attention, till her suspicion and doubt were removed; then suddenly turning from him, tore her garment and imprecated curses upon her head, till her voice faultered, and she burst into tears.

Of this agony, which Nouraddin beheld with unutterable distress the broken exclamations of Amana at length acquainted him with the cause. „In the bowl," said she, which thou hast intercepted, there was death. I wished, when I took it from my lips, that the draught, which remained might be poison: a powder was immediately shaken into it by an invisible hand, and a voice whispered me, that him, who drank the potion it would inevitably destroy. Nouraddin, to whose heart the fatal malignity had now spread, perceived, that his dissolution would be sudden; his legs already trembled, and his eyes became dim, he stretched out his arms towards Amana but impenetrable darkness came upon him, he groaned and fell backwards.

In his fall the talisman again touched his breast, his form was again changed, and the horrors of death were impressed upon the features of Osmin. Amana when she perceived the last transformation, rushed out of the apartment, with the wild impetuosity of distraction and despair. The whole seraglio was alarmed the body, which was mistaken for that of Osmin was examined by the physicians, and the effects of poison were evident. Amana was immediately suspected, and by the command of Shomar, who succeded his father she was put to death.

The Vision of Mirza.

„On the fifth day of the Moon, which according to the custom of my forefathers, I always keep holy, after having washed myself and offered up my morning devotions, I ascended the high hills of Bagdat, in order to pass the rest of the day in meditation and prayer. As I was here airing myself on the top of the mountains. I fell into a profound contemplation on the vanity of human life; and passing from one thought to an other, surely, said I, man is but a shadow and life a dream. Whilst I was thus musing, I cast my eyes towards the sumits of a rock, that was not far from me, where I discovered one in the habit of a shepherd, with a musical instrument in his hand; as I looked upon him he applied it to his lips and began to play upon it. The sound of it was esceeding sweet, and wrought into a variety of tinues that were inexpressibly melodious, and altogether different from any thing I had ever heard. They put me in mind of those heavenly airs, that are played to the departed souls of those good men on their first arrival in Paradise to wear out the impressions cf their last agonies, and qualify them for the pleasures of their

happy place. My heart melted away in secret raptures."

„I had been often told, that the rock before me was the hount of a Genius; and that several had been entertained with Musick, who had passed by it, but never heard that the musician had made himself visible. When he had raised my thoughts, by those transporting airs, which he played, to taste the pleasures of his conversation, as I looked upon him like one astonished, he beckoned to me, and by the waving of his hand directed me to approach the place where he sat. I drew near with that reverence, which is due to a superior nature; and as my heart was entirely subdued by the captivating strains I had heard, I fell down at his feet and wept, the Genius smiled upon me with a look of compassion and affability, that familiarized him to my imagination, and at once dispelled all the fears and apprehensions with which I approached him. He lifted me from the ground, and taking me by the hand. Mirzah said he, I have heard thee in thy soliloquies follow me."

„He then led me to the highest pinnacle of the Rock, and placing me on the top of it, cast thy eyes eastward, said he and tell me what thou seest. I see said I, a huge Valley and a prodi-

gious tide of water rolling through it. The valley that thou seest, said he, is the valley of misery, and the tide of water, that thou seest, is part of the great tide of eternity.

What is the reason, said I, that the tide I see rises out of a thick mist at the one end, and again loses itself in a thick mist at the other? What thou seest, said he, is that portion of eternity, which is called Time, measured out by the sun and reaching from the beginning of the world to its consumation. Examine now, said he this sea, that is thus bounded with darkness at both ends, and tell me what thou discoverest in it. I see a bridge, said I, standing in the midst of the tide. The bridge thou seest, is human life; consider it attentively. Upon a more leisurely survey of it, I found, that it consisted of three score and ten entire Arches with several brocken arches, which, added to those, that were entire, made up the number about an hundred. As I was counting the arches the Genius told me, that this bridge consisted at first of a thousand arches, but that a great flood swept away the rest, and left the bridge in the ruinous condition I now beheld it. But tell me further said he what thou discoverest on it. I see multitudes of people passing over it said I, and a black cloud hanging on each end of it. As I looked more attentively,

I saw several of the passengers dropping through the bridge into the great tide, that flowed underneath it; and upon further examination, perceived, there were innumerable trap doors, that lay concealed in the bridge, which the passengers no sooner trod upon, but they fell through them into the tide and immediately disappeared. These hidden Pit-falls were set very thick at the entrance of the bridge, so that throngs of people no sooner broke through the cloud, but many of them fell into them. They grew thinner towards the middle, but multiplied and lay closer together towards the end of the arches, that were entire.

„There were indeed some persons, but their number was very small, that continued a kind of hobbling march on the broken arches, but fell through one after an other being quite tired and spent with so long a walk."

„I passed some time in the contemplation of this wonderful structure and the great variety of objects, which it presented. My heart was filled with a deep melancholy to see several dropping unexpectedly in the midst of mirth and jollity, and catching et every thing that stood by them to save themselves. Some were looking up towards the heavens in a thoughtful posture and in the midst of a speculation stumbled and fell out

of sight. Multitudes were very busy in the pursuit of bubbles that glittered in their eyes and danced before them, but often, when they thought themselves within the reach of them their footing failed and down they sunk. In this confusion of objects, I observed some scymetars in their hands, and others with Urinals, who ran to and from upon the bridge, thrusting several persons on Trap-doors, which did not seem to lie in their way, and which they might have escaped had they not been thus forced upon them.

„The Genius seeing me indulge myself in this melancholy prospect, told me, I had dwelt long enough upon it: Take thine eyes off the bridge, said he, and tell me if thou yet seest any thing thou dost not comprehend. Upon looking up, what mean, said I, those great flights of Birds, that are perpetually hovering about the bridge, and settling upon it from time to time? I see Vultures, Harpeys, Ravens, Cormorants; and among many other featherd creatures several little winged bays, that perch in great numbers upon the middle arches. These said the Genius are Envy, Avarice, Superstition, Despair, Love, with the like care and passions, that infes human life.“

„I here fetched a deep sigh, alas, said I. Man was made in vain! How is he given away

to misery and mortality! tortured in life, and swallowed up in death. The Genius being moved with compassion towards me, bid me quit so uncomfortable a prospect. Look no more said he, on Man in the first stage of his existence in his setting out for eternity, but cast thine eye on that thick mist into which the tide bears the several generations of mortals, that fall into it. I directed my sight as I was ordered, and I saw the valley opening at the further end and spreading forth into an immense ocean, that had a huge rock of Admant running through the midst of it and dividing it into two equal parts. The clouds still rested on one half of it, insomuch, that I could discover nothing in it; but the other appeared to me a vast ocean planted with innumerable islands, that were covered with fruits and flowers, and interwoven with a thousand little shining seas that ran among them. I could see persons dressed in glorious habits with garlands upon their heads, passing among the trees lying down by the sides of fountains or resting on beds of flowers; and could hear a confused harmony of singing birds, falling waters, human voices, and musical instruments. The islands said the Genius, which thou seest and to which there is no other passage than through the gates of death, are the mansions of good men in their afterlives who according to the degree and kinds of virtue

in which they excelled, are distributed among these several islands. Are not these O Mirza worth contending for? does life appear miserable, that gives thee opportunities of earning such a reward? Is death to be feared that will convey thee to so happy an existence? Think not man was made in vain, who has an eternity reserved for him. I gazed with inexpressible pleasure on these happy islands. At length, said I, shew me now I beseech thee the secrets, that lie hid under those dark clouds which cover the ocean on the other side of the rock of adamant. The Genius making me no answer, I turned about to adress myself to him a second time, but I found that he had left me; I turned again to the vision, which I had been so long contemplating, but instead of the rolling tide, the arched bridge and the happy islands, I saw nothing but the long hollow valley of Bagdad with Oxen, Sheep and Camals, grazing upon the side of it.

Asem an Eastern Tale.

Where Tauris lifts its head above the storm, and presents nothing to the sight of the distant

traveller but a prospect of nodding rocks, falling torrents, and all the variety of tremendous nature; on the bleak bosom of this frightful mountain, secluded from society and detesting the ways of men, lived Asem the Man-hater.

Asem had spent his youth with men, had shared in their amusements; and had been tought to love his fellow-creatures, with the most ardent affections but from the tenderness of his disposition, he exhausted all his fortune in relieving the wants of the distressed. The petitioner never sued in vain; the weary traveller never passed his door; he only desisted from doing good, when he had no longer the power of relieving. From a fortune thus spent in benevolence, he expected a grateful return from those he had formerly relieved; and made his application with confidence of redress: the ungrateful world soon grew weary of his importunity; for pity is but a short lived passion.

He soon, therefore began to view mankind in a very different light from that, which he had before beheld them: he perceived a thousand vices, he had never before suspected to exist; wherever he turned, ingratitude, dissimulation, and treachery contributed to increase his detestation of them. Resolved therefore to continue no longer in a

world, which he hated, and which repaid his detestation with contempt, he retired to this region of sterility in order to brood over his resentment in solitude, and conserve with the only honest heart he knew; namely with his own. A cave was his only shelter from the inclemency of the weather; fruits gathered with difficulty from the mountains side, his only food; and his drink was fetched with danger and toil from the headlong torrent. In this manner he lived, sequestered from society passing the hours in meditation, and sometimes exultiug, that he was able to lieve indepently of his fellow creatures. At the foot of the mountain, an extensive lake displayed its glassy bosom: reflecting on its broad surface, the impending horrors of the mountain. To this capacious mirror he would sometimes descend; and reclining on its steep bank, cast an eager look on the smooth expanse, that lay before him." How beautiful; he often cried, is Natur! how lovely, even in her wildest scenes! How finely contrasted is the level plain, that lies beneath me, with you owful pile, that hides its tremendous head in clouds? But the beauty of these scenes, is no way comparable with their utility; from hence an hunderd rivers are supplied, which distribute health and verdure to the various countries through which they flow. Every part of the universe is beautiful, just and wise, but man, vile

man is a solicism in nature; the only monster in the creation. Tempests and whirlwinds have their use; but vicious ungreatful man is a blot in the fair page of universal beauty. Why was I born of that detested species, whose vices are almost a reproach to the wisdom of the divine creator! Were men entirely free from vice, all would be uniformity, harmony and order. A world of moral rectitude should be the result of a perfectly moral agent. Why, why, then O Alla! must I be thus confined in darkness, doubt and despair?—

Just as he uttered the world Despair, he was going to plunge into a lake beneath him, at once to satisfy his doubts and put a period to his anxiety, when he perceived a most majestie Being walking on the surface of the water, and approaching the bank on wich he stood. So unexpected an object at once checked his purpose; he stopped, contemplated, anb fancied he saw something awful and divine in his aspect.

„Son of Adam“ cried the Genius stop thy rash purpose; the father of the faithful has seen thy justice, thy integrity and thy miseries, and has sent me to afford and administer relief. Give me thine hand and follow, without trembling, wherever I shall lead. In me behold the Genius of conviction, kept by the great Prophet to turn

from their errors those, who go astray not from curiosity, but a rectitude of intention. Follow me, and be wise.“ Asem immediately descended upon the lake and his guide conducted him along the surface of the water; till, coming near the center of the lake, they both began to sink: the water closed over their heads; they descended several hunderd fathoms; till Asem just ready to give up his life as inevitably lost, found himself with his celestial guide in an other world, at the bottom of the waters, where human foot had never trod before. His astonishment was beyond description, when he saw a sun like that he had left, a serene sky over his head and blooming verdure under his feet.

„I plainly perceive your amazement, said the Genius; but suspend it for a while. This world was formed by Alla, at the request and under the inspection of our great Prophet, who once entertained the same doubts, which filled your mind when I found you, and from the consequence of which you were so lately rescued. The rational inhabitans, of this world are absolutely without vice. In other respects, it resembles your earth, but differs from it being wholly inhabited by men, who never do wrong. If you find this world more agreeable, than that you so lately left, you have free permission to spend the remainder of your

days in it; but permit me for some time, to attend you, that I may silence your doubts, and make you better acqnainted with your company and your new habitation.“

„A world without vice! Rational beings without immoratily!“ cried Asem in a rapture. „I thank thee O Alla, who hast at length heard my petitions! This this indeed, will produce happiness, extasy and ease. O for an immortality, to spend it among men, who are incapable of ingratitude, injustice, fraud, violence, and a thousand other crimes, that render society miserable.“

„Cease thine exclamations, replied the Genius.“ Look around thee; reflect on every object and action before us, and communicate to me the result of thine observation. Lead wherever you think proper, I shall be your attendent and instructor.“ Asem and his companion travelled on in silence for some time, the former being entirely lost in astonishment; but at last recovering his former serenity, he could not help observing, that the face of the country bore a near resemblence to that he had left, except, that this subterranean world still seemed to retain its primaeval wilderness.

„Here, cried Asem.“ I perceive animals of

prey, and othors, that seem only designed for their subsistence; it is the very same in the world over our heads, But had I been permitted to instruct our Prophet, I would have removed this defect, and formed no voracious or destructive animals, which only prey on the other parts of the cration." Your tenderness for inferior animals is, I find remarkable, said the Genius smiling. But the earth can support a more considerable number of animals, by their thus becoming food for each other, than if they had lived enitrely on the vegetable productions. But let us hasten on to the inhabited contry before us, and see what that offers for instruction. „They soon gained the utmost verge of the forest, and entered the country inhabited by men without vice, when they beheld one of the inhabitants flying with hasty steps and terror in his countenance, from an army of squirrels, that closely pursued him. Heaven!" cried Asem why does he fly? What can he fear from animals so contemptible? „Every species of animals, replied the Genius, has of late grown very powerful in this country; for the inhabitans at first, thinking it unjust to use either fraud or force, in destroying them they have insensibly increased and now frequently ravage their harmless frontiers. „I must acknowledge my mistake, reteturned Asem, I am now convinced, that we

must be guilty of tyrany and injustice to the brute creation, if we would enjoy the world ourselves."

As they walked further up the country, , the more was he surprised to see no vestige of handsome houses, no cities, nor any mark of elegant design. His conductor observing his surprize, told him, that the inhabitants of this new world were perfectly content, with their ancient simplicity; they were too good to build fine houses, which could only increase their pride and the envy of the spectator. „At least, then, said Asem, they have neither Architects, painters nor statuaries in their society; but these are idle arts and may be spared. However, before I spend much more time here, you shall have my thanks for introducing me into the society of some of their wisest men: there is scarce any pleasure to equal to a refined conversation; there is nothing of which I am so enamoured as wisdom." Wisdom!" replied the instructor how ridiculous! We have no wisdom here, for we have no occasion for it; true wisdom is only a knowledge of our own duty and the duty of others to us; but of what use is wisdom here? Each intuitively performs what is right in himself, and expects the same from others." All this may be right" says Asem; but me think, I observe a solitary disposition prevail among the people, each family keeps separately within their

own precints without society, or without intercourse." — „That indeed is true, replied the other: here is no established society; nor should there be any; all societies are made either through fear of each other, au dthere are no motives to private friendship, where all are equally meritorious." „Well then, said the sceptic if I am to spend my time here, if I am to have neither the polite arts, nor wisdom, nor Friendship, in such a world, I should be glad, at least, of an easy companion, who may tell me his thought, and to whom I may communicate mine." And to what purpose should either do this? „says the Genius; flattery or curiosity are vicious motives, and not allowed here; and wisdom is out of the question." „Still however, said Asem, the inhabitants must be happy; each is contented with his own possessios, nor avariciously endeavours to heap up more than is necessary for its own subsistence; each has therefore leisure to pity, that stand in need of his compassion."

He had scarce spoken, when his ears were assaulted with the lamentations of a wretch, who sat by the way side, and, in the most deplorable distress, seemed gently to murmur at his own misery. Asem ran to his relief, and found him in the last stage of a consumption. Strange! cried the son of Adam, that men, who are free from

vice should thus suffer so much misery without relief!"

„Be not surprized, said the wretch, who was dying; would it not be the utmost injustice for beings, who have only just sufficient to support themselves, and are content with a bare subsistence, to take it from their own mouths to put it into mine? They never are possessed of a single meal more, than is necessary; and what is barely necessary can not be dispensed with. Strange! cries the disappointed pilgrim, in an agony of distress, „What sort of a world am I introduced here to? There is scarce a single virtue but that of temperance, which they practise, and in that they are no way superior to the brute creation. There is scarce an amusement, which they enjoy; fortitude, liberality, friendship, wisdom and conversation, all are virtues entirely unknown here, thus it seems, that to be unacquainted with vice, is not to know virtue, Take me O my Genius, back to that very world, which I have despised. Ingratitude, contempt, and hatred I can now suffer, for perhaps I have deserved them. When I arraigned the wisdom of Providence, I only shewed my own ignorance, let me keep from vice myself, and pity it in others." He had scarce ended, when the Genius assuming an air of terrible com-

placency, called all his thunders around him, and vanished in a whirlwind.

Asem, astonished at the terror of the scene, looked for his imaginary world, when casting his eyes around, he perceived himself in the very situation, and in the very place where he first began to repine and despair: his right foot had been just advanced to take the fatal plunge, nor had it been withdrown; so instantly did Providence strike the series of truths just imprinted on his soul. He now departed from the water-side in tranquility, and leaving his horrid mansion, travelled to Segestan, his native city, where he diligently applied himself to commerce, and put in practice, that wisdom he had learned in solitude. The frugality of a few years soon produced opulence; the number of his domestics increased; his friends came to him from every part of the country, nor did he receive them with disdain: and a youth of misery was concluded, with an old age of elegance, affluence, and ease.

No Life pleasing to God, that is not useful to Man. An Eastern Tale.

In the Persian chonicle of the five hundred and theirteenth year of the Heigyra, it is thus written.

Of the Letter of Cosron the Iman.

It pleased our mighty sovereign Abbas Larasean, from whom the kings of the East derive honour and dominion, to set Mirza his servant over the province of Tauris. In the hand of Mirza, the balance of distribution was suspended with impartiality, and under his administration the weak were protected, the learned received honour aud the diligent became rich: Mirza therefore was beheld by every eye with complacency, and every tongue pronounced blessings upon his head. But it was observed, that he derived no joy from the benefits which he diffused: he became pensive and melancholy, he spent his leisure in solitude; in his palace he sat motionless upon a sofa, and when he went out, his eyes were fixed upon the ground. He applied

himself to the business of state with reluctance and resolved to relinquish the toil of government, of which he could no longer enjoy the reward.

He therefore, obtained permission to approach the throne of our sovereign and being asked, what was his request, he made this reply ! „May the Lord of the world forgive, if Mirza presumes again to lay the bounty of Abbas at his feet. Thou hast given me the dominion of a country fruitful as the garden of Damascus, and a city, glorious above all others, except that only which reflects the splendor of thy presence. But the longest life is a period, scarce sufficient to prepare for death; all other business is vain and trivial, as the toil of emmets in the path of the traveller, under whose foot they perish for ever; and all enjoyment is unsubstantial and evanescent, as the colours of the bow, that appear in the interval of a storm. Suffer me therefore, to prepare for the approach of eternity; let me give up my soul to meditation; let solitude and silence acquaint me with the mysteries of devotion; let me forget the world, and by the world be forgotten, till the moment arrives, in which the veil of eternity shall fall, and I shall be found at the bar of the Almighty.“ Mirza than bowed himself to the earth, and stood silent. By the command of Abbas it is recorded, that at these words he

trembled upon that throne, at the footstool of which the eastern world pays homage; he looked round upon his nobles; but every countenance was upon the earth. No man opened his mouth; and the king firtst broke silence, after it had continued near an hour.

„Mirza terror and doubt are come upon me. I am alarmed, as a man, who suddenly perceives, that he is near the brink of a precepice, and is urged forward by an irrestible force: but yet I know not, whether my danger is a reality or a dream. I am as thou art, a reptile of the earth; my life is a moment and eternity is before me, for which I also should prepare, but by whom then should the people be governed? by those whose life is brutal, because like brutes they do not consider that they shall die? Are the busy multitudes, that crowd the city in a state of perdition? and is the cell of the Dervise alone the gate of paradise? To all, the life of a Dervise is not possible; to all, therefore it can not be a duty. Depart to the house, which has in this city been prepared for thy residence: I will meditate the reason of the request and may he, who illumines the mind of the humble, enable me to determine with wisdom.“

Mirza departed; and on the third day having received no command, he again requested an au-

dience, and it was granted. When he entered the royal presence, his countenance, appeared more cheerful; he drew a letter from his bosom, and having kissed it, he presented it with his right hand. „My Lord, said he, I have learned by this letter, which I received from Cosron the Iman, who now stands before thee, in what manner life may be best improved. I am enabled to look back with pleasure, and forward with hope; and shall now rejoice still to be the shadow of thy power at Tauris, and to keep those honours, which I so lately wished to resign.“ The king, who had listened to Mirza, with a mixture of surprize and curiosity, immediately gave the letter to Cosron, and commanded, that it should be read. The eyes of the court were at once turned upon the hoary sage, whose countenance was suffused with an honest blush, and it was not without some hesitation, that he read these words.

„To Mirza, whom the wisdom of Abbas of our mighty Lord has honoured with dominion, be everlasting health.“

„When I heard thy purpose to withdraw the blessings of thy government from the thousands of Tauris, my heart was wounded with the arrow of affliction. and my eyes became dim with

sorrow. But who shall speak before the king, when he is troubled; and who shall boast of knowledge, when he is distressed by doubt? To thee I will relate the events of my youth, which thou has renewed before me; and those truth, which they tought me, may the Prophet multiply to thee.“

„Under the instruction of the physician Alazar, I obtained an early knowledge of his art. To those, who were smitten with disease, I could administer plants, which the sun has impregnated with the spirit of health. But the scenes of pain, languor, and mortality, which were perpetually rising before me, made me often tremble for myself. I saw the grave open at my feet: I determined, therefore to contemplate only the regions beyond it, and to despise every acquisition, which I could not keep. I conceived an opinion, that as there was no merit but in voluntary poverty, and silent meditation, those, who desired money, were no proper objects of bounty, and that by all, who were proper objects of bounty, money was despised. I therefore burried mine in the earth; and renouncing society, I wandered into a wild and sequestered part of the country. My dwelling was a cave by the side of a hill, I drank the running water from the spring, and eat such fruits and herbs as I could find.

To increase the austerity of my life, I frequently watched all night, sitting at the entrance of the cave, with my face to the east, resigning myself to the secret influences of the Prophet and expecting illumination from above. One morning after my nocturnal vigil, just as I perceived the horizont glow at the approach of the sun, the power of sleep became irresistible and I sunk under it. I imagined myself still sitting at the entrance of my cell; that the dawn increased; and that as I looked earnestly for the first beam of the day, a dark spot appeared to intercept it. I perceived, that it was in motion, it increased in seize as it drew near, and at length I discovered it to be an eagle. I still kept my eye fixed stedfastly upon it, and saw it alight at a small distance, where I now descried a fox, whose two fore-legs appeared to be broken. Before this fox the eagle laid part of a kid, which she had brought in her talons and then disappeared.

When I awaked I laid my forehead upon the ground, and blessed the Prophet for the instruction of the morning. I reviewed my dream, and said thus to myself: Cosron, thou hast done well to renounce the tumult, the business and the vanities of life; but thou hast as yet only done it in part: thou art still every day bu-

sied in the search of food; thy mind is not wholly at rest, neither is thy trust in Providence complete. What art thou tought by this vision? If thou hast seen an eagle commissioned by Heaven to feed a fox, that is lame, shall not the hand of Heaven also supply thee with food, when that which prevents thee from procuring it for thyself is not necessity but devotion? I was now so confident of a miraculous supply, that I neglected to walk out for my repast, which, after the first day, I expected with an impatience, that left me little power of attending to any other object: this impatience however, I laboured to supress, and persisted in my resolution, but my eyes at length began to fail me, and my knees smote each other; I threw myself backward, and hoped my weakness would soon increase to insensibility. But I was suddenly arouzed by the voice of an invisible being, who pronounced these words." Cosron, I am the angel who, by the command of the Almighty, have registered the thoughts of thy heart, which I am now commissioned to reprove. While thou wast attempting to become wise above that which is revealed, thy folly has perverted, the instructien, which was vouchsafed thee. Art thou disabled as the fox? hast thou not rather the powers of the Eagle? Arise, let the Eagel be the object of thy emulation. To pain and sickness be thou again the

messenger of health. Virtue is not rest, but action if thou dost good to Man as an evidence of thy love to God, thy virtue will be exalted, from moral to divine; and that happiness, which is the pledge of Paradise will be thy reward upon earth.“ „At these words, I was not less astonished, than if a mountain had been overturned at my feet, I humbled myself in the dust, I returned to the city; I dug up my treasure; I was liberal, yet I became rich. My skill in restoring health to the body, gave me frequent opportunities of curing the diseases of the soul. I put on the sacred vestments; I grew eminent beyond my merit; and it was the pleasure of the king, that I should stand before him. Now therefore be not offended; I boast of no knowledge, that I have not received; as the sands of the desert drink up the drops of rain, or the dew of the morning; so do I also, who am but dust, imbibe the instructions of the Prophet. Believe then, that it is he, who tells thee, all knowledge is profane; which terminates in thyself; and by a life wasted in speculation, little even of this can be gained. When the gates of Paradise are thrown open before thee, thy mind shall be irradiated in a moment: here thou canst little more, than pile error upon error, there thou shalt build truth upon truth. Wait therefore, for the glorious vision, and in the mean time emulate the Eagel.

Much is in thy power, and therefore much is expected of thee. Though the Almighty only can give virtue, yet, as a prince, thou mayest stimulate, those to beneficence, who act from no higher motive, than immediate interest; thou canst not produce the principle, but mayest enforce the practice. The relief of the poor is equal, whether they receive it from ostentation or charity; and the effect of example is the same, whether it be intended to obtain the favour of God or man. Let thy virtue be thus diffused, and if thou believest with reverence, thou shalt be accepted above. Farewell. May the smile of him, who resides in the heaven of heavens be upon thee! and against thy name in the volum of his will may happiness be written.

The king, whose doubts like those of Mirza were now removed, looked up with a smile, that communicated the joy of his mind. He dismissed the prince to his province and commanded these events to be recorded, to the end, that posterity may know. „That no life is pleasing to God, but that, which is useful to Mankind.

The Genius of Love
an Eastern Apologue.

„The Genius of Love, says the Eastern Apologue, had long resided in the happy plains of Abra, where every breeze was health, and every sound produced tranquility. His temple at first was crouded, but every age lessened the number of his votaries, or cooled their devotion. Perceiving therefore his altar at length quite deserted, he was resolved to remove to some more propitious region; and he aprized the fair sex of every country, where he could hope for a proper reception, to assert their right to his presence among them. In return to this proclamation, embassies were sent from the ladies of every part of the world to invite him, and to display the superiority of their claims.

„And, first, the beauties of China appeared. No country, could compare with them, for modesty, either of look, dress, or behaviour, their eyes, were never lifted from the ground; their robes, of the most beautiful silk, hid their hands, bosom, and neck, while their faces only were left uncovered. They indulged, no airs, that might

express loose desire, and they seemed to study only the graces of inaminate beauty. Their black teeth and plucked eye-brows were, however, alleged by the Genius against them, but he set them entirely aside, when he came to examine their little feet.

„The beauties of Circassia next made their appearance. They advanced hand in hand, singing the most immodest airs, and leading up a dance in the most luxurious attitudes. Their dress was but half a covering; the neck, the left breast, and all the limbs were exposed to view; which after some time, seemed rather to satiate, than inflame desire. The lily and the rose contended in forming their complexions; and a soft sleepiness of eye, added irresistible poignance to their charms: but their beauties, were obtruded, not offered, to their admirers; they seemed to give rather than receive courtship, and the Genius of Love dismissed them as unworthy his regard, since they exchanged the duties of Love, and made themselves, not the pursued but the pursuing sex. „The Kingdom of Kashmir next produced its charming deputies. This happy region, seemed peculiarly sequestered by nature for his abode. Shady mountains fenced it on one side from the scorching sun, and sea-born breezes on the other gave peculiar luxuriance to the air.

Their complexions were of the bright gellow, that appeared almost transparent, while the crimson tulip seemed to blosom on their cheeks. Their features and limbs were delicate, beyond the statuary's power to express: and their teeth, whiter than their own ivory.

He was almost persuaded to reside among them, when unfortunately one of the ladies talked of appointing his serraglio.

„In this procession the naked inhabitants of Southern America, would not be left behind; their charms were found to surpass whatever, the warmest imagination could conceive, and served to show, that beauty could be perfect, even, with the seeming disadvantage of a brown complexion. But their savage education rendered them utterly unqualified to make the proper use of their power, and they were rejected as being uncapable of uniting mental with sensual satisfaction.

„In this manner the deputies of other kingdoms had their suits rejected; the black beauties of Benin, and the tawney daughters of Borneo; the women of Wida, with scared faces, and the hideous virgins of Cassraria; the squab ladies of Lapland, three feet high, and the giant fair ones of Patagonia.

„The beauties of Europe at last appeared, grace in their steps, and sensibility smiling in every eye. It was the universal opinion, while they were approaching, that they would prevail; and the Genius seemed to lend them his most favourable attention. They opened their pretensions, with the utmost modesty; but unfortunately, as their orater proceeded, she happened to let fall the words Hose in town, Settlement, and Pin-money. These seemingly harmless terms, had instantly a surprizing effect: the Genius, with ungovernable rage, burst from amidst the circle; and waving his youthful pinious, left this earth, and flew back to those etherial mansions from whence he descended.

„The whole assembly was struck with amazement; they now justly apprehended, that female power would be no more; since Love had forsaken them. They continued some time thus in a state of torpid despair; when it was proposed by one of the number, that since the real Genius of Love had left them, in order to continue their power, they should set up an idol in his stead; and that the ladies of every country should furnish him, with what each liked best. This proposal was instantly relished and agreed to. An idol of gold was formed by uniting the capricious gifts of all the assembly, though no way resem-

bling the departed Genius. The ladies of China furnished the monster with wings: those of Kashmire supplied him with horns, the dames of Europe clapped a purse into his hand; and the virgins of Congo furnished him with a tail.

Since that time, all the vows addressed to Love are in reality paid to the idol; while, as in other false religions, the adoration seems most fervent, where the heart is least sincere.“

Almamoulin
An Eastern Story.

In the reign of Jengiz Can, conqueror of the east, in the city of Samarcand lived Nouradin the Merchant, renowned throughout all the regions of India for the extent of his commerce, and the integrity of his dealings. His warehouses were filled with all the commodities of the remotest nations, the streets were crowded with his carriages, and the sea was covered with his ships.

At length Nouradin felt himself seized with a slow malady which he first endeavoured to di-

vert by application, and afterwards to relieve by luxury and indulgence; but finding his strength every day less, he was at last terrified, and called for help upon the sages of physick; they filled his apartments with restoratives and essential virtues in order to give new spirits to his nerves and new balsam to his blood. Nouradin was for some time amused with promises, and invigorated with cordials; but the disease preyed upon his vitals, and he soon discovered with indignation, that health was not to be bought. At length, having passed the night in tedious languor, he callәd to him Almamoulin his only son and dismissing his attendants. „My son, says he," behold here the weakness and fragility of man; look backwards a few days, thy father was great and happy, strong as the cedar of the mountain. Malevolence beheld me, and sighed: his root, she cried is fixed in the depth, it is watered by the fountains of Oxus it sends out branches afar, and bids defiance to the blast, prudence reclines against his trunk, and prosperity dances on his top. Now Almamoulin look upon me withering and prostrate; look upon me and attend, I have trafficked, I have prospered, I have rioted in gain; my house is splendid, my servants are numerous; yet I displayed only a small part of my riches; the rest, which I was hindred from enjoying by the fear of raising envy or tempting

rapacity, I have piled in towers, I have buried in caverns, I have hidden in secret repositories, which this scroll will discover. My purpose was, after ten month more spent in commerce to have withdrawn my wealth to a safer country; to have given seven years to delight and festivity, and the remaining part of my days to solitude and repentance; but the hand of death is upon me a frigorifick torpor encroaches upon my veins; I am now leaving the produce of my toil, which it must be thy business to enjoy with wisdom.“ The thought of leaving his wealth filled Nouradin with such grief, that he fell into convulsions became delirious, and expired.

Almamoulin, who loved his father was touched a while with honest sorrow, and sat two hours in profound meditation, without perusing the paper, which he held in his hand. He then retired to his own chamber, as overborn with affliction and there read the inventory of his new possessions, which swelled his hearth with such transports, that he no longer lamented his father's death. He was now sufficiently composed to order a funeral of modest magnificence, suitable at once to the rank of Nouradin's profession and the reputation of his wealth. The two next nights he spent in visiting the tower and the ca-

verns, and found the treasures greater to his eye than to his imagination.

Almamoulin had been bred to the practice of exact frugality, and had often looked with envy on the finery and expences of other young men: he therefore believed that happiness was now in his power, since he could obtain all of which he had hitherto been accustomed to regret the want. He resolved to give a loose to his desires, to revel in enjoyment, and feel pain or uneasiness no more.

He immediately procured a splendid equipage, dressed his servants in rich embroidery, and covered his horses with golden caparisons. He then thougth to strength himself, by an alliance with the princes of Tartary and offered the price of kingdoms, for a wife of noble birth. His suit was generally rejected, and his presence refused, but a princess of Astracan once condescended to admit him to her presence. She received him sitting on a throne, attired in the robe of royalty, and shining with the jewels of Golconda; command sparkled in her eyes, and dignity towered on her forehead. Almamoulin approached and trembled. She saw his confusion, and disdained him: how, says she, dares the wretch hope my obedience, who thus shrinks at my glance?

Retire, aud enjoy they riches in sordid ostentation; thou wast born to be wealthy, but never canst be great.

He then contracted his desires to more private and domestice pleasures. He built palaces, he laid out gardens, he changed the face of the land, he transplanted forests, he levelled mountains, opened prospects into distant regions, poured fountains from the tops of turrets, and rolled rivers through new channels.

These amusements pleased him for a time; but languor and weariness soon invaded him. His bowers lost their fragrance, and the waters murmured without notice. He purchased large tracts of land in distant provinces, adorned them with houses of pleasure and diversified them with accomodations for different seasons. Change of place at first relieved his satiety, but all the novelties of situation were soon exhausted; he found his heart vacant, and his desires, for want of external objects, ravaging himself. He therefore returned to Samarcan and set open his doors to those, whom idleness sends out in search of pleasure. His tables were always covered with delicacies; wines of every vintage sparkled in his bowls, and his lamps scattered perfumes. The sound of the lute, and the voice of the singer

chased away sadness; every hour was crowded with pleasure; and the day ended and began with feats and dances and revelry merrimant.

Almamoulin cried out. "I have at last found the use of riches; I am surrounded by companions, who view my greatness without envy; and I enjoy at once the raptures of popularity, and the safety of an obscure station. What trouble can he feel, whom all are studious to please, that they may be repaid with pleasure? what danger can he dread to whom every man is a friend?"

Such were the thoughts of Almamoulin, as he looked down from a gallery upon the gay assembly regaling at his expence; but in the midst of this soliloquy an officer of justice entered the house and, in the form of legal citation summened Almamoulin to appear before the emperor. The guests stood while agahst, then stole imperceptibly away, and he was let off without a single voice to witness his integrity. He now found one of his most frequent visitants accusing him of treason in hopes of sharing his confiscation; yet unpatronized and unsupported, he cleared himself by the assistance of truth; he was dismissed with honour and his accuser perished in prison.

Almamoulin now perceived with how little

season he had hoped for justice or fidelity from those, who live only to gratify their senses; and being now weary with vain experiments upon life and fruitless researches after felicity he had recourse to a sage, who, after spending his youth in travel and observation, had retired from all human cares, to a small habitation on the banks of Oxus, where he conversed only with such as solicited his counsel.

„Brother, said the Philosopher" thou hast suffered thy reason to be deluded by idle hopes, and fallacious appearances. Having long looked with desire upon riches, thou hast tought thyself to think them more valuable than nature designed them, and to expect from them what experience has now tought thee, they can not give. That they do not confer wisdom, thou mayst be convinced by considering at how dear a price they tempted thee, upon they first entrance into the world to purchase the emply sound of vulgar acclamation. That they cannot bestow fortitude or magnanimity, that man may be certain, who stood trembling at Astracan, before a being not naturally superior to himself. That they will not supply unexhausted pleasure, the recollection of forsaken palaces and neglected gardens will easily inform thee. That they rarely purchase friends, thou didst soon discover, when thou wert left to stand thy trial

uncountenanced and alone. Yet think not riches useless; there are purposes to which a wise man may be delighted to apply them; they may, by a rational distribution to those that want them ease the pains of helpless disease, still the throbs of retsless anxiety, relieve innocence from opression, and raise imbecillity to cheerfulness and vigour. These are the only happiness for our present state, the confidenc eof divine favour and the hope of future rewards.

Morad
His dying charge to his son Abouzaid.

Among the emirs and visiers, the sons of valour and of wisdom, that stand at the corners of the Indian thrône, to assist the counsels or conduct the wars of the posterity of Tunur, the first place was long held by Morad the son of Hanuth. Morad having signalized himself in many battles and sieges, was rewarded with the government of a province, from which the fame of his wisdom and moderation was wafted to the pinnacles of Agra, by the prayers of those, whom his administration made happy. The emperor called him

into his presence, and gave into his hand the keys of riches and the sabre of command. The voice of Morad was heard from the cliffs of Taurus to the Indian ocean, every tongue faultered in his presence, and every eye was cast down before him.

Morad lived many years in prosperity; every day encreased his wealth and extended his influence. The sages respected his maxims, the captains of thousands waited his commands. Competition with drew into the cavern of envy and discontent trembled at her own murmurs. But human greatness is short and transitory as the odour of incense in the fire. The sun grew weary of gilding the palaces of Morad, the clouds of sorrow gathered round his head, and the tempest of hatred roar'd about his dwelling.

Morad saw ruin hastly approaching. The first, that forsook him were his poets; their example was followed by all those whom he had for contributing to his pleasures, und only a few, whose virtue had entitled them to favour, were now to be seen in his hall or chambers. He felt his danger, and prostrated himself at the foot of the throne. His accusers were confident and loud, his friends stood contented with frigid neutrality, and the voice of truth was overborn by clamour.

He was divested of his power, deprived of his acquisitions, and condemned to pass the rest of his life on his hereditary estate. Morad had been so long accustomed to crouds and business, supplicants and flattery, that he knew not how to fill up his hour in solitude; he saw with regret the sun rise to force on his eye a new day for which he had no use, and envied the savage that wanders in the desart, because he has no time vacant from the calls of nature, but is always chasing his prey or sleeping in his den.

His discontent in time vitiated his constitution, and a slow diseases seized upon him. He refused physick, neglected exercise and lay down on his couch peewish and restless, rather afraid to die, than desirous to live. His domesticks, for a time redoubled their assiduities; but finding, that no officiousness could sooth, nor exactness satisfy, they soon gave way to negligence and sloth and he that once commanded nations, often languished in his chamber, without an attendant.

In this melancholy state, he commanded messengers to recall his eldest son Abouzaid from the army. Abouzaid was alarmed at the account of his fathers sickness, and hasted by long jurneys to his place of residence. Morad was yet living, and felt his strength return at the embra-

ces of his son, then commanding him to sit down at his bedside. „Abouzaid, says he“ thy father has no more to hope or fear from the inhabitants of the earth, the cold hand of the angel of death is now upon him, and the voracious grave is howling for his prey. Hear therefore the precepts of ancient experience, let not my last instructions issue forth in vain. Thou hast seen me happy and calamitous, thou hast beheld my exaltation and my fall. My power is in the hands of my enemies, treasures have rewarded my accusers; but my inheritance the clemency of the emperor has spared, and my wisdom his anger could not take away. Cast thine eyes round thee, whaterer thou beholdest will in a few hours be thine; apply thine ear to my dictates, and these possessions will promote thy happiness. Aspire not to public honours, enter not the palaces of kings; thy wealth will set thee above insult, let thy moderation keep thee below envy. Content theyself with private dignity diffuse thy riches among thy friends let every day extend thy beneficence, and suffer not thy heartto be at rest till thou art loved by all, to whomthou art known. In the hight of my power, I said to defamation, who will hear thee? and to artifice what canst thou perform? But, my son, despise not thou the malice of the weakest, remember their venom supplies the want of strength

and that the lion may perish by a puncture of an asp.“

Morad expired in a few hours. Abouzaid after the month of morning, determined to regulate his conduct by his father's precepts and cultivate the love of mankind by every art of kindness and endearment. He wisely considered, that domestic happiness was first to be secured, and that none have so much power of doing good or hurt, as those, who are present in the hour of negligence, hear the burst of thoughtless merriment and observe the starts of unguarded passion. He therefore augmented the pay of all his attandants and required every exertion of uncommon diligence by super numerary gratuities. While he congratulated himself upon the fidelity and affection of his family, he was in the night alarmed hy robbers, who being pursued and taken, declared that they had been admitted by one of his servants; the servant immediately confessed, that he unbarred the door, because another not more worthy of confidence was entrusted with the keys.

Abouzaid was thus convinced, that a dependent could not easily be made a friend; and that while many were soliciting for the first rank of favour, all those would he alienated, whom he dispapointed. He therefore resolved to associate

with a few equal companious selected from among the chief men of the province. With these he lived happily for a time, till famliarity set them free from restraint, and every man thought himself at liberty to indulge his own caprice and advance his own opinions. They then disturbed each other with contrariety of inclinations and difference of sentiments, and Abouzaid was necessiated to offend one party by concurrence, or both by indifference. He afterwards determined to avoid a close union with beings so discordant in their nature, and to diffuse himself in a large circle. He practised the smile of universal courtesy, and invited all to his table, but admitted none to his retirements. Many who had been rejected in his choice of friendship, now refused to accept his aquaintance; and of those, whom plenty and magnificence drew to his table every one pressed forward toward intimacy, thought himself overlooked in the croud and murmured, because he was not distinguished above the rest. By degrees all made advances, and all resented repulse. The table was then covered with delicacies in vain; the musick sounded in empty rooms; and Abouzaid was left to form in solitude new schemes of pleasures or security.

Resolving now to try the force ef gratitude he enquired for men of science, whose merit was

obscured by poverty. His house was soon crouded with poets, sculpters, and designers, who wantoned in unexperienced plenty, and employed their power in celebration of their patron. But in a short time they forgot the distress from which they had been rescued, and began to consider their deliverer as a wretch of narrow capacity, who was growing great by works, which be could not perform and whom they overpaid hy condescending to accept his bounties. Abouzaid heard their murmurs and dismissed them, and from that hour continued blind to colour and deaf to panegyrick.

As the sons of art departed muttering threats of perpetual infamy, Abouzaid, who stood at the gate called to him Hamet the poet. „Hamet," said he, thy ingratitude has put an end to my hopes and experiments; I have now learned the vanity of those labonrs that wish to be rewarded by human benevolence; I shall henceforth do good and avoid evil, without respect to the opinion of men; and resolve to solicit only the approbation of that being whom alone we are sure to please by endeavouring to please him.

Obidah
His journey of a day being an instructive description of human life: An Eastern Tale.

Obidah the son of Abesina, left the caravansera early in the morning and pursued his journey, through the plains of Indostan. He was fresh and vigerous with rest; he was animated with hope; he was incited by desire; he walked swiftly forward over the vallies, and saw the hills gradually rising before him. As he passed along, his ears were delighted with the morning song of the bird of paradies, he was fanned by the last flatters of the sinking breeze, and sprinkled with dew by groves of spices; he sometimes contemplated the towering hight of the oak, monarch of the hill; and sometimes caught the gentle fragrance of the primrose, eldest daughter of the spring; all his senses were gratified and all care was banished from his heart.

Thus he went on till the sun approached his meridian, and the increasing heat preyed upon his strength; he then looked round about him for some more comodius path. He saw, on his right

hand, a grove, that seemed to wave its shades as a sign of invitation; he entered it, and found the coolness and verdure irresistibly pleasant. He did not however forget wither he was travelling, but found a narrow way bordered with flowers, which appeared to have the same direction as the main road, and was pleased that, by this happy experiment, he had found means to unite pleasure with business and to gain the rewards of diligence, without suffering its fatigues. He therefore, still continued to walk for a time, without the least remission of his ardour, except that he was sometimes tempted to stop by the musick of the birds, whom the heat had assembled in the shade; and sometimes amused himself plucking the flowers, that covered the banks on either side, or the fruits, that hung upon the branches. At last the green path began to decline from its first tendency, and to wind among hills and thickets coold with fountains and murmuring with waterfells. Here Obidiah paused for a time, and began to consider whether it were longer safe to forsake the known and common track, but remembering, that the heat was now in its greatest violence, and that the plain was dusty and uneven, he resolved to puruse the new path, which he supposed only to make a few meanders, in compliance with the varieties of the ground, and to end at last into the common road. Having thus calmed his soli-

citude, he renewed his pace, though he suspected, that he was not gaining ground.

This uneasiness of his mind inclined him to lay hold on every new object, and give way to every sensation, that might sooth or divert him. He listened to every echo, he mounted every hill for a fresh prospect, he turned aside to every cascade, and pleased himself with tracing the course of a gentle river that rolled among the trees and watered a large region with inumerable circumvolutions. In these amusements the hours passed away uncounted, his deviations had perplexed his memory, and he knew not towards what point to travel. He stood pensive and confused, afraid to go forward lest he should go rong, yet conscious, that the time of loitering was now past. While he was thus tortured with uncertainty, the sky was overspread with clouds, the day vanished from before him and a sudden tempest gathered round his head. He was now roused by his danger to a quick and painful remembrance of his folly; he now saw how happiness is lost, when ease is consulted; he lamented the unmanly impatience, that prompted him to seek shelter in the grove, and despised the petty curiosity, that led himon from trifle to trifle. While he was thus reflecting, the air grew blacker, and a clap of thunder broke his meditation. He now resolved

to do what remained yet in his power, to tread back the ground, which he had passed, and try to find some issue where the wood might open into the plain. He prostrated himself on the ground and commended his life to the lord of nature. He rose with confidence and tranquility and pressed on with his sabre in his hand, for the beasts of the desart were in motion, and on every hand were heard the mingled howls of rage and fear, and revage and expiration, all the horrors of darkness and solitude surrounded him; the winds roared in the woods, and the torrents tumbled from the hills. Thus forlorn and distressed, he wandered through the wild, without knowing wither he was going: or whether he was every moment drawing nearer to safety or to destruction. At length not fear but labour began to overcome him; his breath grew short, and his knees trembled, and he was on the point of lying down in resignation to his fate, when he heheld throught the brambles the glimmer of a taper. He advanced towards the light; and finding, that it proceed from the cottage of a hermit, he called humbly at the door, and obtained admission. The old man set before him such provisions as he had collected for himself, on which Obidah fed with eagerness and gratitude.

When the repast was over, „Tell me, said the Hermit, by what chance thou hast been brought

hither; I have been now twenty years an inhabitant of the wilderness, in which I never saw a man before“ Obidah then related the occurrence of his journey, without any concealment or palliation. „Son, said the Hermit, let the errors and follies, the dangers and escap of this day, sink deep into thy heart. Remember my son, that human life is the journey of a day. We rise in the morning of youth, full of vigour and full of expectation: we set forward with spirit and hope, with gaiety and with diligence, and travel on a while in the straight road of piety towards the mansions of rest. In a short time we remit our fervor and endeavour to find some mitigation of our duty, and some more easy means of obtaining the same end. We then relay our vigour, and resolve no longer to be terrified with crimes at a distance, but rely upon our own constancy, and venture to approach, what we resolve never to touch.

We thus enter the bowers of ease and repose in the shades of security. Here the heart softnes and vigilance subsides; we are then willing to enquire, whether another advance can not be made, and whether we may not, at least, turn our eyes upon the gardens of pleasure. We approach them with scruple and hesitation; we enter them, but enter timorous and trembling, and always hope to pass through them without losing the

road of virtue, which we, for a while, keep in our sight, and to which we purpose to return. But temptation succeeds temptation, and one compliance prepares us for an other; we in time lose the happiness of innocence, and solace our disquiet with sensual gratifications. By degrees we let fall the remembrance of our original intention, and quit the only adequate object of rational desire. We entangle ourselves in business, imerge ourselves in luxury, and rove through the labyrinth of inconstancy, till the darkness of old age begins to invade us, and disease and anxiety obstruct our way. We then look back upon our lives with horror, with sorrow, with repentance, and wish, but too often vainly wish, that we had not foresaken the ways of virtue. Happy are they, my son, who shall learn from they example not to despair, but shall remember, that though the day is past, and their strength is wasted, there yet remains one effort to be made; that rcformation is never hopeless, nor sincere endeavours ever unassisted, that the wanderer may at length return after all his errors, and that he, who implores strength and courage from above, shall find danger and difficulty give way before him. Go now, my son, to thy repose, commit thyself to the care of omnipotence, and when the morning calls again to toil, begin anew thy journey and thy life.

Memoirs and Private Histories.

Part The Third.

Memoirs of Seged
King of Ethopia.

Seged, lord of Ethiopia to the inhabitants of the world. To the sons of presumption humility, and fear; and to the daughters of sorrow, content and acquiescence.

Thus, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, spoke Seged, the monarch of forty nations, the distributer of the waters of the Nile. „At length Seged, thy toils are at an end, thou hast reconciled disaffection, thou hast supressed rebellion, thou hast pacified the jealousies of thy courtiers, thou hast chased war from thy confines, and errected fortresses in the lands of thy enemies. All, who have offended the, tremble in thy presence, and wherever thy voice is heard, it is obeyed. Thy throne in sourrounded by ar-

mies, numerous as the locusts of the summer, and resistless as the blasts of pestilence. Thy magazines are stored with ammution, thy treasures overflow with the tribute of conquered kingdoms. Plenty waves upon thy fields and opulence glitters in thy cities. Thy nod is as the earth quake that shakes the mountains, and thy smile as the dawn of the varnal day.“

Seged then ordered the house of pleasure, built in an island of the lake Dambea, to be prepared for his reception, „I will retire says he, for ten days from tumult and care, from counsels and decrees. Long quiet is not the lot of the governors of nations, but a cessation of ten days cannot be denied me. This short interval of happiness may surely be secured from the interruption of fear or perplexity, sorrow or disappointment.

I will exclude all trouble from my abode, and remove from my thoughts whatever may confuse the harmony of the concert, or abate the sweetness of the banquett I will fill the whole capacity of my soul with enjoyment, and try what it is to live without a wish unsatisfied.“

In a few days the orders were performed and Seged hasted to the palace of Dambea, which

stood in an island cultivated only for pleasure, planted with every flower, that spreads its colours to the sun, and every shrub, that sheds fragrance in the air. In one part of this extensive garden, were open walks for excursions in the morning; in another, thick groves, and silent arbours, and bubling fountains for repose at noon. All that could solace the sense, or flatter the fancy, all that industry could extort from nature, or wealth furnish to art, all that conquest could seize, or beneficence attract, was collected together, and every perception of delight was excited and gratified.

Into this delicious region Seged summoned all the persons of his court, who seemed eminently qualified to receive, or communicate pleasure. His call was readily obeyed; the young, the fair, the vivacious, and the witty, were all in haste to be sated with felicity. They sailed jocund over the lake, which seemed to smooth its surface before them. Their passage was cheered with musick and their hearts dilated with expectation.

Seged landing here with his band of pleasure, determined from that honr to break off all acquaintance with discontent, to give his heart for ten days to ease and jollity and then return back to

the common state of man, and suffer his life to be diversified, as before with joy and sorrow.

He immediately entered his chamber, to consider where he should begin his circle of happiness. He had all the artists of delight before him, but knew not whom to call, since he could not enjoy one, but by delaying the performance of another. He chose and rejected, he resolved and changed his resolution till his faculties were harrassed, and his thoughts confused; then returned to the appartment where his presence was expected, with languid eyes and clouded countenance, and spread the infection of uneasiness over the whole assembly.

He observed their oppression and was offended, for he found his vexation encreased by those whom he expected to dissipate and relieve it. He retired again to his private chamber, and sought for consolation in his own mind; one thought flowed in upon an other; a long succession of images seized his attention, the moments crept imperceptible away through the gloom of pensiveness, till having recovered his tranquillity, he lifted up his head, and saw the lake brightened by the setting sun." Such said Seged sighing, is the longest day of human existence. Before we have learned to use it, we find it at an end."

The regret, which he felt for the loss of so great a part of his first day; took from him all disposition to enjoy the evening; and after having endeavoured for the sake of his attendants to force an air of gaiety, and excite that mirth, which he could not share, he resolved to refer his hopes to the next morning, and lay down to partake of rest with the slaves of labour.

He rose early the second morning and resolved now to be happy. He therefore fixed upon the gate of the palace an edict, importing, that whoever during nine days should appear in the presence of the king with dejected countenance or utter any expression of discontent or sorrow should be driven for ever from the palace of Dambea.

This edict was immediately made known in every chamber of the court, and bower of the gardens. Mirth was frighted away and they who were before dancing in the lawns, or singing in the shades, were at once engaged in the care of regulating their looks, that Seged might find his will punctually obeyed and see none among them liable to banishment.

Seged now met every face settled in a smile, but a smile that betrayed solicitude, timidity and

constraint. He accosted his favourites with familiarity and softness; but they durst not speak without premeditation, lest they should be convicted of discontent or sorrow. He proposed diversions, to which no objection was made, because objection would have implied uneasiness; but they were regarded with indifference by the courtiers, who had no other desire, than to signalize themselves by clamorous exultation. He offered various topicks of conversation, but obtained only forced jests and laborious laughter, and after many attempts to animate his train to confidence and alacrity, was obliged to confess to himself the impotence of command and resign another day to grief and disappointment.

He at last relieved his companions from their terrors, and shut himself up in his chamber to ascertain by different measures, the felicity of the succeeding days. At length, he threw himself on the bed and closed his eyes, but imagined, in his sleep, that his palace and gardens were overwhelmed by an inundation, and waked with all the terrors of a man struggling in the water. He composed himself again to rest, but was affrighted by an imaginary irruption into his kingdom, and striving, as is usual in dreams, without ability to move, fancied himself betrayed to his

enemies, and again started up with horror and indignation.

It was now day, and fear was strongly impressed on his mind, that he could sleep no more. He rose, but his thoughts were filled with the deluge and invasion, nor was he able to disengage his attention, or migle with vacancy and ease in any amusement. At lenght his perturbation gave way to reason, and he resolved no longer to be harrassed by visionary miseries; but before this resolution could be completed half the day had elapsed: He felt a new conviction of the uncertainty af human schemes, and could not forbear to bewail the weakness of that being, whose quiet was to be interrupted by vapours of the fancy. Having been first disturbed by a dream, he afterwards grieved, that a dream could disturb him. He at last discovered, that his terrors and grief were equally vain, and, that to lose the present in lamenting the past, was voluntarity to protract a melancholy vision. The third day was now declining, and Seged again resolved to be happy on the morrow.

On the fourth morning Seged rose early, refreshed with sleep vigorous with health and eager with expectation. He entered the garden, attended by the princes and ladies of his court,

and seeing nothing about him but airy cheerfulness, began to say to his heart.„ This day shall be a day of pleasure." The sun played upon the water, the birds warbled in the groves, and the gales quivered among the branches. He roved from walk as chance directed him and sometimes he let loose his imagination in flights of merriment, and feasted on the admiration with which they were received.

Thus the day rolled on, without any accident of vexation, or intrusion of melancholy thoughts. All that beheld him cought gladness from his looks, and the sight of happiness conferred by himself filled his heart with satisfaction.

But having passed three hours in this harmless luxury, he was alarmed on a sudden by an universal scream among the women, and turning back saw the whole assembly flying in confusion. A young crocodile had risen out of the lake, and was ranging the garden in wantonness or hunger. Seged beheld him with indignation, as a disturber of his felicity, and chased him back into the lake, but could not persuade his retinue to stay, or free their hearts from the terror which had seized them.

The princesses inclosed themselves in the pa-

lake and could scarely believe themselves in safety. Every attention was fixed upon the late danger and escape and no mind was any longer at leisure for gay sallies or careless prattle.

Seged had no other employment than to contemplate the innumerable casualties, which lie in ambush on every side to intercept the happiness of man and break in upon the hour of delight and tranquility. He had however the consolation of thinking, that he had not been now disappointed by his own fault, and that the accident, which had blasted the hopes of the day, might easily be prevented by future caution.

That he might provide for the pleasure of the next morning, he resolved to repeal his penal edict, since he had already found, that discontent and melancholy were not to be frighted away by the threats of authority, and that pleasure would only reside where she was exempted from controul. He therefore invited all the companions of his retreat to unbounded pleasantry, by proposing prizes for those, who should, on the following day, distinguish themselves by any festive performances; the tables of the antechamber were covered with gold and pearls, and robs and garlands decreed the rewards of those, who could refine elegance or highten pleasure.

At this display of riches every eye sparkled, and every tongue was busied in celebrating the bounty and magnificence of the emperor. But when Seged entered in hopes of uncommon entertainment for universal emulation, he found that any passion too strongly agitated, puts an end to that tranquility which is necessary to mirth, and that the mind that is to be moved by gentle ventilations of gaiety, must be first smoothed by a total calm. Whatever we ardently wish to gain, we must in the same degree be afraid to lose, and fear and pleasure cannot dwell together.

All was now care and solicitude. Nothing was done or spoken but with so visible an endeavour at perfection, as always failed to delight. And Seged could not but observe, that his prizes had more influence than himself. As the evening approached, the contest grew more earnest, and those, who were forced to allow themselves excelled, began to discover the malignity of defeat, first by angry glances, and at last by contemptuous murmurs. Seged likewise shared the anxiety of the day, for considering himself as obliged to distribute with exact justice the prizes, which had been so zealously fought, he durst never remit his attention. At last, knowing that no exactness could satisfy those, whose hopes he should disappoint, he declared, that all had plea-

sed him alike, and dismissed all with presents of equal value.

Seged however soon saw, that his caution had not been able to avoid offence. For they, who had believed themselves secure of the highest prizes were not pleased to be levelled with the croud; they departed unsatisfyed, because they were honoured with no distinction, and vanted an opportunity to triumph in the mortification of their opponents." Behold here, said Seged the condition of him, who places his happiness in the happiness of others." He then retired to meditate, and while the courtiers were repining at his distribution, saw the fifth sun go down in discontent.

The next dawn renewed his resolution to be happy. But having learned how little he could effect by settled schemes or preparotary measures, he thought it best to give up one day entirely to chance, and left every one to please and be pleased his own way. But as he was roving in this careless assembly with equal carelessness, he overheard one of his courtiers in a close arbour murmuring alone: What merit has Seged above us, that we should thus fear and obey him? This affected him the more as it was uttered by one of the most object of his flatterers.

On the seventh day Seged looking on a tree that shaded him, he recollected, that under a tree of the same kind he had passed the night after his defeat in the kingdom of Goiama. The reflection on his loss and dishonour filled him with sadness.

On the eight morning Seged was awakened early by an unusual hurry in the appartments, and enquiring the cause was told, that the princess Balkis was seized with sickness. He rose, and called the physicians, but found that they had little hope of her recovery. Here was an end of jollity; All his thoughts were now upon his daughter, whose eyes he closed on the tenth day.

Such were the days which Seged of Ethiopia had appropiated to a short respiration from the fatigues of war and the cares of government. This narrative he has bequeathed to future generations, that no man hereafter may presume to say „This day shall be a day of happiness.“

The History of Imlac a man of learning; narrated by himself to Rassales, Prince of Abissinia.

„Sir, said Imlac, my history will not be long: the life, that is devoted to knowledge passes silently away, and is very little diversified by events. To talk in public, to think in solitude, to read and to hear, to inquire and answer inquiries, is the business of a Scholar. He wanders about the world without pomp or terror, and is neither known, nor valued but by men like himself.

„I was born in the kingdom of Goiama, at no great distance from the fountain of the Nile. My father was a wealthy merchant, who traded between the inland countries of Africa and the ports of the red sea. He was honest, frugal and diligent, but of mean sentiments, and narrow comprehension he desired only to be rich. „My father originally intended that I should have no other education, than such as might qualify me for commerce, and discovering in me great strength of memory and quickness of apprehension, often

declared his hope, that I should become the richest man in Abissinia.

„With this hope, he sent me to school; but when I had once found the delight of knowledge and felt the pleasure of intelligence and the pride of invention, I began silently to despise riches, and determined to disappoint the purpose of my father, whose grossness of conception raised my pity. I was twenty years old before his tenderness would expose me to the fatigue of travel, in which time I had been instructed, by successive masters in all the literature of my native country. As every hour tought me something new, I lived in a continual course of gratitude; but as I advanced towards manhood, I lost much of the reverence, with which I had been used to look on my instructors; because when the lesson was ended, I did not find them wiser or better than common man. „At length my father resolved to initiate me in commerce, and opening one of his subteranean treasures, counted out ten thousand pieces of gold.

This, young man, said he, is the stock, with which you must negociate. I began with less than the fifth part, and you see how diligence and parsimony have increased it.

This is your own to waste or to improve. If you squander it by negligence or caprice, you must wait for my death before you will be rich; if, in four years, you double your stock, we will thence foreward let subordination cease, and live together as friends and partners; for he shall always be my equal, who is equally skilled in the art of growing rich.

„We laid our money upon camels, concealed in bales of cheap goods and travelled to the shore of the red sea. When I cast my eye on the expanse of waters my heart bounded like that of a prisoner escaped. I felt an unextinguishable curiousity kindle in my mind, and resolved to snatch this opportunity of seeing the manners of other nations and of learning sciences unknown in Abissinia.

„I remembered, that my father had obliged me to the improvement of my stock, only by a penalty, which I was at liberty to incur, and therefore determined to gratify my predominant desire, and by drinking at the fountains of knowledge, to quench, the thirst of curiosity.

„As I was supposed to trade without connexion with my father, it was easy for me to become acquainted with the master of a ship, and

procure a passage to some other country. I had no motives of choice to regulate my voyage, it was sufficient for me, that wherever I wandered, I should see a country, which I had not seen before. I therefore entered a ship bound for Surat, having left a letter for my father declaring my intention. „When I first entered upon the world of waters, and lost sight of land, I looked round about me with pleasing terror, and thinking my soul enlarged by the boundless prospect, imagined, that I could gaze round for ever without satiety; but, in a short time, I grew weary of looking on barren uniformity, where I could only see again, what I had already seen. I then descended into the ship, and doubted for a while, whether all my future pleasures would not end like this in disgust and disappointment, yet, surely, said I, the ocean and the land are very different; the only variety of water is rest and motion; but the earth has mountains and vallies, deserts and cities: it is inhabited by men of different customs and contrary opinions; and I may hope to find variety in life, though I should miss it in nature.

„With this thought I quieted my mind and amused myself during the voyage, sometimes by learning from the sailors the art of navigation, which I have never practised, and sometimes by

forming schemes for my conduct in different situations, in not one of which I have been ever placed. „I was almost weary of my naval amusements, when we landed safely at Surat. I secured my money and purchasing some comodities for show, joined myself to a caravan, that was passing into the inland country. My companions, for some reason or other, conjecturing that I was rich, and, by my inquiries and admiration, finding that I was ignorant, considered me as a novice, whom they had a right to cheat, and who was to learn at the usual expence the art of fraud. They exposed me to the theft of servants, and the exaction of officers, and saw me plundered upon false pretences, without any advantage to themselves, but that of rejoicing in the superiority of their own knowledge. „In this company, I arrived at Agra, the capital of Indostan; the city in which the great Mogul commonly resides. I applied myself to the language of the country, and in a few months was able to converse with the learned men; some of whom I found morose and reserved, and others easy and communicative; some were unwilling to teach an other what they had with difficulty learned themselves; and some shewed that the end of their studies was to gain the dignity of instructing. To the tutor of the young princess I recommended myself so much, that I was presented to the emperor as a man of

uncommon knowledge. The emperor asked me many questions concerning my country and my travels; and though I can not now recollect any thing, that he uttered, above the power of a common man, he dismissed me astonished at his wisdom and enamoured of his goodness.

„My credit was so high, that the merchants, with whom I had travelled, applied to me for recommandations to the ladies of the court. I was surprised at their confidence of solicitation, and genly reproached them with their practices on the road. They heard me with cold indifference and shewed no tokens of shame or sorrow.

„They then urged their request with the offer of a bribe; but what I would not do for kindness I would not do for money; and refused them not because they had injured me, but because, I would not enable them to injure others; for I knew they would have made use of my credit to cheat those, who should buy their wares.

„Having resided at Agra till there was no more to be learned I travelled into Persia, where I saw many remains of ancient magnificence, and observed many new accomodations of life. The Persians are a nation eminently social and their assemblies afforded me daily opportunities of re-

marking characters and manners, and of tracing human nature through all its variation.

„From Persia I passed into Arabia, where I saw a nation at once pastoral and warlike; who live without any settled habitation whose only wealth is their flocks and herds; and who have yet carried on, through all ages, an hereditary war with all mankind, though they neither covet nor envy their possessions.

„Wherever I went, I found, that Poetry was considered as the highest learning, and regarded with a veneration some what approaching to that which man would pay to the Angelic Nature, and yet it fills me with wonder, that, in almost all countries, the most ancient poets are considered as the best: whether it be, that every other kind of knowledge is an acquisition gradually attained, and poetry is a gift conferred at once: or whether as the province of poetry is to describe Nature and passion, which are always the same, the first writers got possession of the most striking objects for description, and the most probable occurrences for fiction, and left nothing to those that followed them, but transcription of the same events, and new combinations of the same images. Whatever be the reason, it is commonly observed, that the early writers excell in strength and

invention and the latter in elegance and refinement.

„I was desirous to add my name to this illustrious fraternity. I read all the poets of Persia and Arabia, and was able to repeat by memory the volumes, that are suspended in the mosque of Mecca. But I soon found, that no man was ever great by imitation. My desire of excellence impelled me to transfer my attention to nature and to life. Nature was to be my subject, and men to be my auditors: I could never describe, what I had not seen: I could not hope to move those with delight or terror, whose interest and opinions I did not understand.

„All the appearances of nature I was therefore careful to study, and every country, which I have surveyed, has contributed some thing to my poetical powers. „But the knowledge of nature is only half the task of a poet; he must be acquainted likewise with all the modes of life. His character requires, that he estimate the happiness and misery of every condition; observe the power of all the passions in all their combinations, and trace the changes of the human mind as they are modified by various institutions and accidental influences of climate or costum, from the sprightliness of infancy to the despondency of decrepi-

tude. He must divest himself of the prejudices of his age or country, he must consider right and wrong in their abstracted and invariable state, and he must write as the interpreter of nature. But his labour is not yet at an end: he must know many languages and many sciences; and, that his style may be worthy of his thoughts, must by incessant practice, familiarize to himself every delicacy of speech and grace of harmony. „From Persia, said Imlac, I travelled through Syria, and for three years resided in Palestine, where I conversed with great numbers of the northern and western nations of Europe: the nations which are now in possession of all power and all knowledge whose armies are irresistible, and, whose fleets command the remotest parts of the globe. When I compared these men with the natives of our own kingdom, ad those that surround us, they appeared almost another order of beings. In their countries it is difficult to wish for any thing that may not be obtained; a thousand arts are continually labouring for their convenience and pleasure and whatever their own climate had denied them is supplied by their commerce.

In enumerating the particular comforts of life, we shall find many advantages on the side of the Europeans. They cure wounds and diseases with which we languish and perish. We suffer incle-

mencies of weather which the can obviate. They have engines for the dispatch of many laborious works, which we must perform by manual industry. There is such communication between distant places, that one friend can hardly be said to be absent from an other. Their policy removes all public inconveniences: they have roads cut through their mountains and bridges laid upon their rivers. And, if we descend to the privacies of life, their habitatious are more commodius, and their possessions are more secure.“

„From Palestine, continued Imlac, I passed through many regions of Asia; in the more civilized kingdoms as a trader, and among the barbarians of the mountains as a pilgrim. At least I began to long for my native country, that I might repose after my travels, and fatigues, in the places where I had spent my earliest years and gladden my old companions with the recital of my adventures. Often did I figure to myself those with whom I had sported away the gay hours of dawning life, sitting round me in its evening wondering at my tales, and listening to my counsels.“

„When this thought had taken possession of my mind, I considered every moment as wasted, which did not bring me nearer to Abissinia. I hastened into Egypt and notwithstanding my im-

patience, was detained ten months in the contemplation of its ancient magnificence, and inquiries after the remains of its ancient learning. I found in Cairo a mixture of all nations; some brought thither by the love of knowledge, some by the hope of gain, and many by the desire of living after their own manner without observation, and of lying hid in the obscurity of multitudes: for in a city, populous as Cairo, it is possible to obtain at the same time the gratifications of society, and the secrecy of solitude." From Cairo, I travelled to Suez and embarked on the Red Sea, passing along the coast till I arrived at the port, from which I had departed twenty years before. Here I joined myself to a caravan and re-entered my native country. „J now expected the carresses of my kinsmen, and the congratulations of my friend, and was not witbout hope, that my father whatever value he had set upon riches, would own with gladness and pride a son, who was able to add to the felicity and honor of the nation. But I was soon convinced, that my thoughts were vain. My father had been dead forteen years, having divided his wealth among my brothers who were removed to some other provinces. Of my companions the greater part was in the grave, of the rest some could with difficulty remember me and some considered me as one corrupted by foreign manners." A man used to vicissitudes is not

easily dejected. I forgot, after a time my disappointment and endeavoured to recommend myself to the nobles of the kingdom; they admitted me to their tables, heard my story, and dismissed me. I opened a school, and was prohibited to teach. I then resolved to sit down in the quiet of domestic life, and adressed a lady, that was found of my conversation but rejected my suit, because my father was a merchant.

„Wearied at last with solicitation and repulses, I resolved to hide myself for ever from the world and depend no longer on the opinion or caprice of others. I waited for the time when the gate of the happy valley should open, that I might bid farewell to hope and fear: the day came, my performance was distingnished with favour, and I resigned myself with joy te perpetual confinement.

„Here Sir, concluded Imlac, I am less unhappy than the rest of your attendants, not one of whom does not lament the hour when he entered this retreat, because I have a mind replete with images, which I can wary and combine at pleasure. I can amuse my solitude by the renovation of the knowledge, which begins to fade from my memory, and by recollection of the accidents of past life. Yet all this ends in the sorrowful

consideratien, that my acquirements are now useless, and that non of my pleasures can be again enjoyed. I look with pity on the crowds who are annually soliciting admission to captivity and wish, that it were lawful for me to warn them of their danger."

The Memoirs of an Adviser writen by himself.

I was, from my earliest years, disposed to think more of other people's advantage than of my own. When at sckool, I was the great prompter both of study and amusement, tho' I was nowise remarkable for excelling in the one or enjoying the other. I shewed the first boyes of our class the easiest way of getting through their lessons and performing their exercises; but I seldom could be at the trouble to get or to perform my own. I laid excellent plans for new games expeditions, and little plots of mischief; but being of a weakly constitution, and of not a very resolute mind, I seldom was an actor in the amusement of the adventure; as I had, however, a sort of vanity,

which was flattered by the imputation of the advice; I was often flogged for trickes I had not played, and idle diversion in which I had not partaken. I was generally pitched on as a sort of ambassador when a play-day was to be asked, or a boy begged off; because I liked to put myself foreward, and was readier with my tongue, than my hand. But in this office I was very ill rewarded for my trouble: I was sometimes whipped in place of him whose pardon I had the assurance to ask, and often left out of the party whose play I had been so lucky as to obtain. These disappointments, however, did not damp the natural ardour of my disposition to serve my friends. Genius it has been observed, rather grows upon control; my genius was that of giving advice, and it seemed rather to increase, than to abate as I grew up into life. I chose a profession, which was very well calculated for indulging this propensity, that of a physician, and went through a regular course of education to qualify myself for a degree: which, however, I failed of obtaining at the university in which I studied. having incurred the displeasure of the professors from being the promotor as they said, of certain cabals amongst the students, which disturbed the peace of the community. For obtaining that honorary distinction, I was obliged to go to a foreign university, where, from a want of the lan-

guage I was prevented from giving so much good advice as I should otherwise have been inclined to bestow. When I returned to my native country, I was resolved to make up for this unprofitable iuterval of silence, by a liberal use of my talent for advising.

But I dont know how it happened, except from that disposition which genius has rather to voluntary than to expected exertion, I had not half the pleasure in giving advice as a physician, than I felt in offering my counsel in any other case of doubt or of difficulty. It might perhaps be owing to this, that I was little consulted, and in some houses into which I had got access as a doctor, it was alleged, that I raised such a ferment by my non medical advice, as all my sedatives were unable to allay. On my skill as a physician I bore attacks without much emotion; but, conscious of the purity of my intentions, I was surprized to hear my conduct as a man arraigned; astonished, when an adviser like myself cautioned me against intermeddling with other peoples affairs; told me, that nothing was so hurtful to one's self as that telling people disagreable truths; and that, if I was not on my guard, I would soon be shunned as a busy-body and an incendiary, who set every family into which he was admitted by the ears.

In consequence of the caution offered me by this teller of agreable truths; I was determined notwithstanding my natural philanthropy, to withold the counsel of which I saw most of my neighbours stand, so much indeed, when an incident happened, that put me a good deal in spirits with myself and in favour with the world. An oncle died, and left me heir to a considerable sum, which he possessed in the funds. By his death I found myself to have acquired a great deal of wisdom and persuasion as well as money; and, while that money lasted seldom met with a man or a woman, who did not find my advice, perfectly prudent and useful. It was indeed frequently given in a way exactly the reverse of what my profession, which I now followed only for my amusement should have tought me. The fee commonly accompained the prescription, or some such genteel denomination; and I had among my patients persons of very great consideration and of the most eminent talents.

I scarce remember any, who obstinately and bluntly refused my advice, except one author, whom I earnestly advised to supress a dedication he shewed me to a small volume of poems, with which he was about to favour the public. This was a matter too in which I thought I had the best tittle to offer my opinion, as the book was

to be dedicated to myself, and I had set down my name for one hundred copies. In the disposal of the riches with which this unespected death of my relation had endowed me, I was equally benevolent and disinterested as in the other parts of my conduct. The effects of this were, as in other cases, more beneficial to my friends than to myself: by that hospitality with which I repaid the gratitude of those, whose measures I prompted or advised, by the facility with which I entered into money engagements, in aid of those measures: by becomming a sharer in several projects, of which I had the chief management and direction and in which therefore I generally had the honour of making the first and largest advances; and by laying out money according to the advice of some of the ablest men in that department (for after I grew rich I had get advisers too): by all these means, in the course of ten or twelf years, I found my uncle's inheritance almost entirely exhausted, and I was left in the decline of life with no other provision, than a very small anunity, which the wreck of it enabled me to purchase.

I was however, always of a sanguine, thoughtless disposition, and not easily put out of temper with the circumstances in which fortune had placed me. My anunity, small as it was, enabled

me to keep up a decent appearance; and my degree gave me a convenient, and in this country a respectable appelation. I had gained, too, some experience during the vicissitudes of my fortune, and in my days of prosperity had, as I mentioned above, known what it was to receive as well as to offer advice. On this experience, and an attention to my own feelings, I built the system of my future conduct; and by a diligent attention to the feelings of others, I have been able to pursue it with very tolerable success. I still continue my profession as adviser; but I now give advice after a manner perfectly different from that in which I set out, not according to the case in which I am consulted, but according to the inclination of him or her who eonsults me.

It can not easily be imagined, how much good will this deportment has gained me. Instead of the distant acquaintance and cold reception, which in the days of my honest counsel, I generally met with, I now find myself surrounded by friends and well wishers wherever I go. I dine six days in the week at good tables, have frequent invitations to parties of pleasure; nay I might have even some professional advantage, if I was inclined to lay hold of it, and might be fee'd for prescribing remedies to people of fashion, of which themselves have first told me the infallibility.

Not only indeed in medicine, in which I might be supposed to have some knowledge, but in most other arts and sciences this same echo-counsel has given me the character of being very skilful and well informed. I have acquired a great character for connoiseurship in painting by advising a great collector to purchase, as an original Vandyke, a picture which his ordinary counsellor in these matters has insisted, in spite of his patron's assertion, was but a copy.

At the theater my advice is followed, even by that most unadvisable of all professions, the players, ever since I told Mr. — that he was an incomparable Macbeth and advised Mrs. to play Juliet in her grand climateric.

The Life of Traffic Described by himself.

My name is Traffic; I was the only son of wealthy merchant in London, who bred me to his own business. There was nothing remarkable in my youth, except, that the characteristic passion of my heart, shewed itself, in the very dawn

of reason, in my eagerness to ingross and hoard up the baubles of my play-mates, and the far fetched schemes I laid to over-reach them in all our little bargains.

My father was at first delighted with this cunning, which his fondness took for the first essay of a great genius; but, when he saw me persist in it, after I grew up and attempt to practise the same arts, in the course of my business, it gave him serious alarms for my future conduct; for he had ever been averse to these artifices, which are called the mysteries of commerce, and owed his success solely to close application in the plain way of a fair trade. But this caution, I looked upon with contempt, as timidity and want of genius, and, undiscouraged, by his constant repulses to all my bold strokes, and deep schemes, which I was constantly suggesting to him, I resolved, when I should be at liberty, to my own inclinations to strike out new ways, that should afford me opportunities of exerting my abilities in their full strength and shewing them in their proper lustre.

The vanity, which prompted avarice to form these designes, would so often break out in boasting, that my father was fully acquainted with them; and a sensible decline to his health quicke-

ning his apprehensions for me, his tenderness, would omit nothing, which might shew me my error, in its proper light, and prevent my falling into so destructive ways.

Calling me therefore into his closet, one morning, he adressed me in these words; words, which dear experience had now printed deeply on my heart, though then they had no weight with me.

„My son, said he, the day approaches fast, when you will be in possession of the fruits of my honest industry. I leave you a good fortune, and have the happiness to be able to tell you, in this trying moment, that no wilful private wrong, or public fraud, makes me wish it were by one penny less. As therefore it was acquired in the fear of God, if not abused, it will wear with his blessing. Habit has so wedded me to my business, that I could not leave it off myself: and I bred you to it, to indulge, as I thought the bent of your genius, aud to prevent idleness from tempting youth to folly. — But now, that dangerous season is past with you; and the labour of my life has taken away all necessity of labour from yours. Be wise then my son, and enjoy that happiness, which Heaven offers you, without tempting a reverse! You will have riches, more

than enough, for every natural want, for every rational wish; and it will sweeten your enjoyment of them, and draw down the blessings of Heaven on your head, to employ the super-plus in acts of private benevolence and public-spirit; in which best of employments, the abilities, with which you are so liberally blest, will find ample room for their exertion; and your pious endeavours be rewarded with a success, that will be an happiness to your life, and an honour to your name.

As for the profession of a merchant, to which you have been bred, heaven points it out to the inhabitants of this country, by our situation, nor can any other be more advantageous to it; but still, even that advantage may be pursued too far, and the extreme of industry may sink into avarice, and so disappoint its own end.“

„For I must tell you, my son, that though trade adds to the wealth, yet too eager a pursuit of it, even with the greatest success, diminishes the strength of a nation. I am sensible, that this is against received opinion; but truth, when properly displayed, will force conviction.“

„The real strength of a nation consists in the prevalence of disintrested spirit, which, regardless of s e l f, throws its weight into the pu-

blic fund; as may be proved by many examples of small poor states conquering large wealthy ones. Whereas the spirit of commerce centres all in self, discouraging and dispising as folly, every thought, which does not tend that way; and so breaking that unanimity, which is the very essence of power, and only can give it success. A reflection, my son, which observation confirms too strongly at present, and which seems to overcast the prospect of this happy nation."

My advice therefore to you is, to retire from business, though not to idleness. You will have a fortune, that will make you of consequence in the state, and give you sufficient employment in the conduct of it, without embarrassing your mind with anxiety for more. And to enable you to follow this advice with the greatest ease, I have settled all my affairs, and shall leave you free from every entanglement of life. This is the advice, the request of a fond father, who desires compliance from his dear son, and would not force unwilling obedience, by an act of authority or command. But should the love of business have taken such a hold of your heart, as habit gave it of mine, and not permit you to comply, with this request, take, my son, the advice of experience, and hold fast the clue it offers to guide you, through the labyrinth of trade, in which

the vivacity of your genius may otherwise, lose its way. Nor are the rules I shall hint to you, many to be remembered, or difficult to be observed.“

„Be just, my son in all your dealings, wrong not individuals; nor defraud the public.“

„These are all the rules, I recommend; but in them is comprized more, than, perhaps, appears at first view. Do not, therefore, think them too obvious to have been necessary to be repeated! nor let the mention of them give offence, by any seeming implication of personal doubt.‘

„In the business of a merchant, these rules comprehend a great extent of meaning, though I shall mention but a few instances of it at present.“

„As for the first, every misrepresentation, to mislead ignorance, or abuse credulity, every taking advantage by superior knowledge, is a wrong to the party so deceived; as every artifice to evade the intention of the legislature is a fraud against the public, nay against yourself, and every individual who claims the benefits provided by the ordinances, so defeated of their support.“

„This indeed is so obvious, that it were an afront to reason to insist on any proof of it. The most eager pursuer of illicit trade will not vindicate a general indulgence of it, and if it is not lawful for all, how can it be for him? or with what colour can he claim a profit, which he is conscious arises only from deceit, and from the benefit of those very laws, which he thus defeats?“

„As for the former, of avoiding private wrong, that is more difficult, and less defencible, if possible, than even this. For where all the powers of the mind are turned to make advantage, it is very hard to refrain from taking it, where we ought not, and bringing the great business of life into common practice in its minutest concerns.“

„In a word, my son, there are so many and strong arguments of this nature to be given against all trade, that the general advantage of the common-wealth alone can, in any way, support it against them. This therefore, should be written in the deepest characters on the heart of every merchant, that he should never let private interest tempt him to engage in any trade or scheme, that can interfere with the public interest, or is forbidden by

the laws of his country. — I shall say no more; nor burthen your mind with farder advice observe this and be happy."

I was obliged to hear him, but his words, at that time, made no more impression on my mind, than the whistling of the winds, nor in the least altered my intentions.

The opportunity, which I had long panted for arrived too soon; my father dying, just after I was of age, and leaving me possessed of wealth sufficient for me to exercise my talents on, as I was not blessed with prudence to take his advice, and put it to its proper use in rational enjoyment

I was immediately a man of consequence, and that not only in my own eyes. I made a figure upon Change I signed among the foremost in the public subscriptions. But all these did not satisfy me. I sickened at the thought of having an equal, not only in wealth, the darling object of my soul, but also in the reputation of acquiring it by methods of my own stricking out, as I looked upon the known course of business as too slow for my advances and too limited for my genius.

I therefore immediately became a Schemer,

and entered into every project, which my own brain could invent, or artful imposition suggest to me; blindly, wilfully giving up the serenity of an open mind for the vain appearance of mysterious consequence and design; and making my fortune a prey to every sharking projector, who flattered my vanity with promisses of success, in the very attempts, which had been his own ruin.

The perplexity, in which this infatuation soon involved my affairs, far from opening my eyes, only set me upon deeper schemes. I threw off all restrain, and entered into measures the most injurious to my country, which was then engaged in an extensive war. I insured the effects of its enemies, and of consequence gave them information how to avoid its forces. I supplied them with provisions from ours; and at length went so far as to lend and procure them money to support the war against ourselves.

But all my schemes met their just fate. My subterfuges were seen through, and a stop put to them before I could receive the stipulated profit. The stores I bought the enemy were intercepted by our fleets and the latter refused at last to pay the advances I have made.

This finished my ruin: I had not only lent

them all my own fortune, but had also borrowed much more to supply them, than I was now able to pay.

In this situation, the advice of my father returned full upon me, and aggravated my distress. But I had no time for reflection; the horrors of a jail stared me full in the face, which I had no way to avoid but by flight, the equivocalness of my character having made every honest man, who was able to assist me, afraid of being concerned with me. I therefore immediately raised all the money I possibly could, and embarked secretly in a ship of my own for the West-Indies.

I must stop here, and look back, to give you an account of an affair, which the precipitancy of my ruin prevented my mentioning in its proper order.

I had told you, that my father had acquired his own fortune by industry; but as the greatest industry requires a foundation to work upon, he had been assisted by the person to whom he served his apprenticeship, who knowing his abilities, and confiding in his honesty, upon the decline of his own health, established him in partnership with his only son, whom he thought too young to conduct so extensive a business.

Though I did not obey my fathers desire of giving up business, yet my vanity would not admit a thought of continuining the partership after his death, as it would have been but a curb on my favourite schemes. On the contrary, I rather declined every connexion with him in business; but however as I kept up every other appearance of regard and even of respect for him, no coolness was occasioned by it, in the intercourse of intimacy between us.

But for this conduct I had an other motive, besides regard for him. He had an only daughter, enriched with every beauty and virtue, that could mark the favourite work of heaven. She was about four years younger than me, which difference of age had given me an opportunity of treating her with such a fondness, from her very infacny, as raised a real love in her greatful heart, as her beauties did the strongest one it was capable of feeling in mine. Our fathers had seen this growing attachment with the greatest pleasure from the beginning and encouraged it between us.

But my father's death, before she was of an age to undertake the cares of such an awful state, and a long illness of her father's after, during which her filial piety and love would not admit

a thought af any thing, that should interfere with her tender regard for him, prevented my happiness from being accomplished, while there was any obstacles that could hinder my evil genius from defeating it.

At length, after languishing five years her father died, without a moment more immediate warning, having been on Exchange that day as usual. In the tumult of this loss I was sent for, and no will being found, for he unhappily had not imagined his end so near, nor made any settlement of his affairs. In the confidence of her attachment, Amelia gave every thing into my hands, and requested me to make up all her fathers accounts, and conclude her dealings with the world.

This happened just when my scheming had begun to embarrass my affairs. My heart therefore never proof to much temptation, yielded to such an opportunity ef recovering the loss of my folly at her expence, by sinking the greatest part of her fortune to my own use; never considering, that I might have the whole in a just and honorable way, enhanced with the greatest blessing of herself. To accomplish this design, and prepare for what was to follow, I pretended to Amelia, that I found many difficulties

in her father's affairs; and having secreted, as much as I thought proper, and could with safety, I at length gave her in an account, with the strongest expressions of concern: „to find that, which I had long apprehended was too true, and that her father's affairs were in a very bad situation; that I had howevcr with great difficulty got together some what above ten thousand pounds."

This representation had the effect I designed; Amelia's confidence in me would not admit a thought of my deceiving her, as pride, too powerful in the purest human breast prevented her revealing her circumstances to any one else, who might have attempted to disprove what I said. She therefore, with an appearance of surprise rather than doubt, or even concern, acquiesced, and signed a receipt in full, desiring me to destroy all her father's books aud papers as they could be of no farther use to her.

This completed my design beyond a possibility of detection, and even raised a new one against the poor pittance I had left her, though it was not quite a fourth part of what was really her right.

Though my whole life was one continued scene of villany, yet in all, there was a grada-

tion, a regular descent from bad to worse each successful crime opening new oppertunities and suggesting schemes, which never entered into my thoughts before.

This was exactly the case with regard to Amelia. While she was in possession of her whole fortune, the highest wish of my heart was to marry her; but no sooner had an unhappy accident given me an opportunity of defrauding her of far the greatest part of it, than that respectful love immediately sunk into loose desire, and my success in my former schemes against her, set my thoughts at work to accomplish the gratification of this passion, on my own base terms.

To bring this design to perfection, it was necessary, that I should get her fortune entirely into my power; which I accordingly formed schemes to accomplish without delay. For the success of my former attempt, so far from satisfying my avarice, or raising any sense of compassion in my breast for her wrongs, had made me look upon herself, and all that belonged to her, as my property, which I was as impatient to possess as if it was detained from me by injustice.

I therefore took occassion one day, when ve were alone together to drop some words of

concern, at my not having immediately by me a sum of money to lay out on most advantageous terms, which had been that very morning proposed to me.

She directly took the hint, and said, her little fortune was still in her hands, in the same bank notes I had given her; and if the use of it, for any time could be of advantage to me, she should feel a greater pleasuré in my taking it, than any profit she could make of it any other way. I would not however accept of her offer but with this restriction, that I would consider whether the terms proposed to me might not suit her, and be more advantageous, than the interest I could afford her if I should make use of it myself. I said this with an equivocal smile which she understood as I would have her, and immediately with an assenting blush, put the notes into my hands without requiring a receipt or any kind of acknowledgment for them.

Having thus gained, that which I reckoned the better part of Amelia; I directly resolved to close with an offer, some time before made me by a wealthy merchant, of a large fortune, with his daughter, whom I accordingly married, a few days after I had got possession of Amelias money.

I shall spare myself the pains of any farther description of my wife, than that she was the very reverse of Amelia in soul and body; and my mariage consequently as unhappy as I justly deserved.

After a few weeks after the marriage, I received a message from Amelia delivered by a relation of her's, to desire, I should pay in her money to him for which he would give me a receipt. As I was not prepared for this, I believe it threw me into a confusion too visible; but I soon recovered presence of mind enough to answer, that I could not but be surprised at such a demand, as Amelia must be sensible, that I had paid her all the money of her's that was in my hands, for which I had her discharge in full.

The gentleman replied in astonishment." Her discharge Sir! that was when you settled her afairs; but she says, that she since then, gave her whole fortune into your hands, to lay out for her. And Sir, my cousin is known to be neither a fool nor a liar, though I believe she has suffered severely for her ill placed confidence. — Perhaps she says so Sir, said I, but I know nothing of the matter, and am not accountable for what she says, or you think, Sir; and I suppose if your cousin is not a fool, she has not given her

money without some thing to shew for it. But you must exeuse my talking any longer on so idle a subjuct; and so Sir your Servant.

After this I heard no more of ¡Amelia for some time; but what was my astonishment, when I was informed, that she had sold of her jewels and other little effects and was gone to a relation of her's, who lived in the West-Indies!

From this time the hand of Heaven seemed to be upon me; every thing I had any concern in miscarried; and, to hasten my ruin, my house was a perfect sink of riot and debouchery. My wife, as she had no charms to excite desire, lived in a profusion, that must destroy even a royal fortune.

Mine great as it had been, sunk under so many dissipations of all kinds; and I had no resource left but in a precipitate flight, which heaven made my passion for Amelia direct for Barbadoes to mark the justice of its vengeance the more plainly.

On my arrival in the West-Indies, I had the addition to my grief to find, that Amelia had been taken in her passage by a spanish privateer.

This drove me to despair: I was wearied of life; but resolved not to die unrevenged on those, who had thus, as I thought, robbed me of my hopes.

Burning with this project, I fitted out my ship, and manned her with a crew as desperate as myself; resolving, though the war was at an end, to pursue my revenge upon the Spaniards, on the defenceless coast of their American dominions, in which my other passions were urged to haste. We therefore set out upon our cruise, or rather piracy without delay, of which I shall not raise your horor with any further particulars, than that we went directly into the Spanish main, where we not only rifled all the ships we met, but also made descents on the coasts and ravaged with a barbarity, that was a reproach to human nature.

The tumult and hurry of this life kept my spirits in an agitation, that gave a kind of respite to my grief, and the spoil we made in our first enterprizes was so great, as to awake hopes of restoring my affairs, so as to enable me fo return to England with all the credit wealth could give. And could I have known when to stop, I was soon rich even beyond my most sanguine hopes; but urged by avarice and encouraged by

success, I still went on head long to my fate, which I met in an attempt upon a town some way up in the country, the convenience and pleasantness of whose situation had made it the residence of the richest families in the whole province as its distance from the coast made them live in a state of perfect security, without any fortification or guard.

To this place we directed our march, one evening, and arrived at it a little after midnight, with an intention to surprise the inhabitants, and return to our ship with the spoil before the country could rise to intercept us.

The first part of our design succeeded, and we got possession of the town withont any resistance; where we committed all the outrages, and reamed about with the licentious carelessness of free-booters under no command.

While every one thus prowled about for prey, fate goaded me to an arbour in a garden, whither I followed the cries of women. I was just rushing in among them, inflamed with brutal desire, when — what was my astonishment to see Amelia, in the most magnificent undress throwing heaps of gold and jewels into a vault, that opened by a trap door into the arbour! I stood motionless at the

sight for some moments, in distrust of my senses, but two such objects as she and her riches, soon awoke me from my trance, and I advanced to take possession of both. At the sight of me, the women all shricked, and Amelia, as I advanced to lay hold on her fell into a swoon. This embarrassed me greatly, as I had no time to lose, for our centinels just then sounded a retreat. However I determined to wait a little, to see if she recoverd, and stooping to raise her, to give her air, I received such a blow from behind, as deprived me of all sense for several hours; when on my recovering, I found myself chained on the ground in a dungeon.

I was some time before I could believe my senses, or conceive where I was, till the jailor comming to see if I was alive, gave me to understand', that my companions had gone off without me, and left me in the hands of a nobleman, who had himself knocked me down, as I was going to commit a rape upon his lady, while she lay in a swoon; and that I had been thrown into this dungeon, that if I recovered, I might suffer the punishment due to the outrages we had committed both here and in the other places. I wanted no farther information to shew me the horrors of my situation. I saw them all, and agravated an hundred fold, by the accusation of my

own conscience, that could now trace the hand of heaven in the justice of my punishment, which has thus overtaken me, in the presence and on the account of Amelia. In this misery, I was dragged before a magistrate, who enumerating the crimes we had been guilty off, condemned me to immediate death.

This sentence, so mnch milder, than my fears, awoke an hope of further mercy, to obtain which my evil genius suggested to me, to apply to Amelia; I therefore waved attempting a defence of other crimes, but asserted my innocence, as to the particular charge of a base design upon Amelia, at the time I was taken, adding that, I had the honour of being nearly related to that lady, and that, if I was indulged with a few words with her in the presence of all there, I hoped I might be found to merit a mitigation of my sentence.“ On my mentioning the name of Amelia, I observed one of the principal persons kindle into rage. He did not however interrupt me; but as soon as I had concluded he starled up and exclaimcd with the most furious indignation:“ Amelia, thy relation! No more than angles are related to devils! Her virtues are dishonoured by the claim. But she shall appear and disprove the odious calumny. Saying which words he instantly went for her, while an hollow mur-

mur of surprise and detestation made the silence of the court the more dreadful and hightened the horrors of my suspense. But I waited not long!

Amelia soon appeared led in by her husband, and being seated by the judge. „Where said she, looking round with the serenity of conscious virtue.“ Where is the person, who says he is related to me?“

The sight of her threw me into such a conflict of passions, that I could not forbear crying out in English. „O Amelia; hast thou then forgot me? At the sound of my voice she started up and looking earnestly at me for a moment, fell upon ker knees, and lifling her hands and eyes to heaven, she said aloud in Spanish O God how signal is this justice; And then rising and turning to her husband, who stood in amazement: This my Lord, said she this is the man of whom I have informed you: I abjure all kindred with him; I desire he may be examined as to my story and if he can vary in the least from what I have told you let me be condemned to the severest punishment but that of staying longer in his sight.“

On this she withdrew, without deigning a look at me, but her words had a proper effect upon my heart, and I resolved to do her justice.

I therefore prevented her husband's command, and in a few words as possible related the black affair with the strictest truth.

So complicated guilt seemed to require consideration to find out proper punishment, so I was remanded to my dungeon, but without the least encouragement to hope. The next day I was again brought into court, when the judge adressed me in these words." Thou hast heard O wretched man, the sentence due to crimes, but great as they have been, mercy extents her hand to thee. The virtues of the illustrious Donna Amelia overbalance the guilt, and have prevailed for a mitigation of thy punishment. Thou shalt not die, nor shalt thou suffer torture, that thy strength may not be impaired for the labour to which thy life is doomed; for this is the last day thou shalt ever behold the light of heaven. Thou shalt immediately descend into the mines, there to work out the residue of thine unhappy days, in raising that gold for the use of others the insatiable desire of which was the cause of all thy guilt.

Danger of regulating Our conduct by the rules of romantic sentiments illustrated by the History of Emilia

Written by her Oncle.

My niece Emilia — was left to my care by a brother, whom I dearly loved, when she was a girl of about ten years old. The beauty of her countenance, and the elegance of her figure, had already attracted universal notice; as her mind opened, it was found not less worthy of admiration. To the sweetest natural dispositions, she united uncommon powers both of genius and of understanding; these I spared no pains to cultivate and improve; and I think I so far succeeded, that, in her eighteenth year, Emilia was inferior to few women of her age, either in personal attractions or in accomplishments of the mind. My fond hopes (for she was a daughter to me) looked now for the reward of my labour, and I pictured her future life as full of happiness as of virtue.

One feature of her mind, was strongly predominant; a certain delicacy and fineness of fee-

ling, which she had inherited from Nature, and which her earliest reading had to encourage and increase. To this standard, she was apt to bring both her own actions and the actions of others; and allowed more to its effects, both in praise and blame, than was consistent either with justice or expediency. I sometimes endeavoured gently to combat these notions. She was always eloquent in their defence, and I found her more confirmed on their side, the more I obliged her to be their advocate. I preferred therefore, being silent on the subject, trusting, that a little more experience would necessarily weaken their influence. —

At her age, and with her feelings, it is necessary to have a friend: Emilia had found one at a very early period.

Harriet S..... was the daugther of a neighbour of my brother's, a few years older than my niece. Several branches of their education the two young ladies had received together; in these the superiority lay mnch on the side of Emilia. Harriet was no wise remarkable for fineness of genius or quickness of parts; but though her acquirements were more moderate, she knew how to manage them to advantage; and there was often a certain avowal of her inferiority, which conciliated affection

the more as it did not claim admiration. Her manners were soft and winning, like those of Emilia, her sentiments as delicate and exalted; there seemed, however less nature in both.

Emilia's attachment to this young lady I found every day increase, till, at last, it so totally engrossed her as rather to displease me. When together, attention was confined almost entirely to each other; or what politeness forced them to bestow upon others, they considered as a tax which it is fair to elude as much as possible. The world, a term which they applied indiscriminately, to almost every one but themselves, they seemed to feel as much pride as happiness in being secluded from, and its laws of prudence and propriety, they held the invention of cold and selfish minds, insensible of the delights of feeling, of sentiment, and of friendship. These ideas were I believe much strengthened by a correspondance, that occupied most of the hours (not many indeed) in which they were separated. Against this I wentured to remonstrate, in a jocular manner, with Emilia; she answered me in a strain so serious, as convinced me of the danger of so romantic an attachment. Our discourse on the subject grew insensibly warm. Emilia at last burst into tears: and I apologized for having, I knew not how, offended her. From that day forth,

though I continued her adviser, I found I have ceased to be her friend.

That office was now Harriet's alone, the tie only wanted some difficulty to rivet it closer, some secret to be intrusted with some distress to alleviate. Of this an opportunity soon after presented itself. Harriet became enamoured of a young gentleman of the name of Marlow an officer of dragoons, who had come to the country on a visit to her brother, with whom he had been acquainted at college.

As she inherited several thousand pounds, independent of her expectations from her father, such a match was a very favourable one for a young man, who possessed no revenue but his commission. But, for that very reason, the consent of the young lady's relations was not to be looked for.

After sometime, therefore of secret and ardent attachment of which my niece was the confident, the young folks married without it, and trusted to the common relentings of parental affection, to forgive a fault which could not be remedied. But the father of Harriet remained quite inexorable; nor was his resentment softened even by her husbands leaving the army; a step which,

it was hoped, might have mitigated his anger, as he had often declared it principally to arise from his daughter marrying a soldier.

After some fruitless attempts to reinstate themselves in the old gentleman's affections, they took up their residence in a provincial town, in a distant part of the kingdom; where as Harriet described their situation to Emilia they found every wish gratified in the increased tenderness to one another. Emilia soon after went to see them in their new abode; her description of their happiness, on her return was warm to a degree of rapture. Her visit was repeated on occasion of her first child. This incident was a new source of delight to Emilia's friends, and of pleasure to her in their society. Harriet, whose recovery was slow, easily prevaled on her to stay till it was completed. She became a member of the family, and it was not without much regret, on both sides, that she left at the end of six months, a house from which, as she told me, the world was secluded, where sentiment regulated the conduct, and happiness rewarded it. All this while, I was not without alarm, and could not conceal my uneasiness from Emilia, I represented the situation in which her friend stood, whom prudent people must consider as having made, at least, a bold step, if not a blamable one. —

I was answered rather angrily, by a warm remonstrance against the inhumanity of parents, the unfeelingness of age, and the injustice of the world.

That happiness, which my niece has described as the inmate of Harriet's family, was not of long duration. Her husband, tired of the inactive scene into which his marriage had cast him, grew first discontented at home, and then sought for that pleasure abroad, which his own house could not afford him. His wife felt this change warmly, and could not restrain herself from expressing her feelings. Her complaints grew into reproaches and riveted her husband's dislike to her society, and his relish for the society of others. Emilia was, as usual the confident of her friend's distress; it was now increased to a lingering illness, which had succeeded the birth of her second girl.

After informing me of those disagreable circumstances in which her Harriet was situated, Emilia told me she had formed the resolution of participating, at least, if she could not alleviate her friend's distress, by going directly to reside at her house. Though I had now lost the affections of my niece, she had not yet forced me into indifference for her. Against this propo-

sal I remonstrated in the strongest terms. You will easily guess my arguments; but Emilia would not allow them any force. In vain I urged the ties of duty, of prudence and of character. They only produced an eulogium on generosity, on friendship and on sentiment. I could not so far command my temper as to forbear some observations, which my niece interpreted into reflections upon her Harriet.

She grew warm on the subject; my affection for her would not suffer me to be cool. At last, in the enthusiasm of her friendship, she told me I had cancelled every bond of relationship between us; that she would instantly leave my house, and return to it no more. She left it accordingly, and set out for Harriet's that very evening.

There, as I learned, she found that lady in a situation truly deplorable: her health declined, her husband cruel, and the fortune she has brought him wasted among his companions at the tavern and the gaming-table. The last calamity the fortune of Emilia enabled her to relieve; but the two first she could not cure and her friend was fast sinking under them. She was at last sized with a disorder, which her weak frame was unable to resist, and which her physicians infor-

med Emilia, would soon put a period to her life This intelligence she communicated to the husband in a manner suited to wring his heart for the treatment he had given his wife.

In effect Marlow was touched with that remorse which the consequences of profligate folly will sometimes produce in men more weak, than wicked. He too had been in use to talk of feeling and of sentiment. He was willing to be impelled by the passions, though not restrained by the principles of virtue and to taste the pleasures of vice, while he thought he abhorred its depravity. His conversion was now as violent as sudden.

Emilie believed it sincere, because confidence was natural to her, and the effects of sudden emotion her favourite system. By her means a thorough reunion took place between Mr. and Mrs. Marlow; and the short while the latter survived, was passed in that luxury of reconcilement which more than reinstates the injurer in our affection. Harriet died in the arms of her husband; and, by a solemn adjuration, left to Emilia the comfort of him and the care of her children.

There is in the communion of sorrow one of

the strongest of all connections ; and the charge, which Emilia had received from her dying friend of her daughters, necessarily produced the freest and most frequent intercourse with their father. Debts, which his former course of life, had obliged him to contract, he was unable to pay; and the demands of his creditors were the more promptory, as, by the death of his wife, the hopes of any pecuniary assistance from her father were cut off. In the extremity of his distress, he communicated it to Emilia.

Her generousity, relieved him from the embarrassment, and gave him that father tie which is formed by the gratitude of those we oblige. Meanwhile, from the exertions of that generousity, she suffered considerable inconvenience. The world was loud, and sometimes scurrilous, in its censure of her conduct.

I tried once more, by a letter written with all the art I was master of, to recal her from the labyrinth in which this false sort of virtue had involved her. My endeavours were vain. I found that sentiment, like religion has its superstition and its martyrdom. At last my poor deluded niece was so entangled in the toils, which her own imagination, and the art of Marlow had spread for her, that she gave to the dying charge

of Harriet the romantic interpretation of becoming the wife of her widower and the mother of her children.

The power of corrupt society and false shame over the natural feelings of virtue Illustrated by the life of Father Nicolas Written by himself.

My name is St. Herbert; my family ancient and respectable, though its domains, from various untoward events, had been contracted much within their former extent. I lost my father before I knew the misfortune of losing him; and the indulgence of my mother, who continued a widow, made up, in the estimation of a young man, for any want of that protection or of guidance, which another parent might have afforded.

After having passed with applause through the ordinary studies, which the capital of our province allowed an opportunity of acquiring, my

mother sent me to Paris, along with the son of a neighbouring family, who, though of less honorable descent, was much richer than ours.

Young Delaserre (that was my companion's name) was intended for the army; me, from particular circumstances, which promised success in that line, my mother and her friends had destined for the long robe, and had agreed for the purchase of a charge for me when I should be qualified for it. Delassere had a sovereigne contempt for any profession but that of a soldier and took every opportunity of inspiring me with the same sentiments.

In the capital I had this prejudice every day more and more confirmed. The fierté of every man, who had served, the insolent superiority he claimed over his fellow citizens, dazzled my ambition and awed my bashfulness. From nature I had that extreme sensibility of shame, which could not stand against the ridicule even of much inferior men. Ignorance would often confound me in matters of which I was perfectly well informed, from his superior effrontery; and the best established principles of my mind would sometimes yield to the impudence of assuming sophistery or of unblushing vice.

To the profession, which my relations had marked out for me, attention, diligence, and sober manners were naturally attached; having once set down that profession as humilating, I concluded its attendant qualities to be equally dishonorable.

I was ashamed of virtues to which I was naturally inclined, a bully in vices, which I hated and despised. Delaserre, enjoyed my apostacy from innocence as a victory he had gained. At school he was much my inferior, and I attained every mark of distinction to which he had aspired in vain. In Paris he triumphed in his turn: his superior wealth enabled him to command the appearance of superior dignity and show; the cockade in his hat inspired a confidence, which my situation did not allow; and, bold as he was in dissipation and debauchery, he led me as an inferior, whom he had tought the art of living, whom he had first trained to independence and to manhood.

My mothers ill judged kindness supplied me with the means of those pleasures, which my companions induced me to share, if pleasures they might be called, which I often partook with uneasiness and reflected on with remorse.

Sometimes, though but too seldom I was as much a hypocrite on the other side; I was self-denied, beneficent, and virtuous by stealth; while the time and money, which I had so employed, I boasted to my companions of having spent in debauchery, in riot, and in vice. The habits of life, however, into which I had been led, began by degrees to blunt my natural feelings of rectitude, and to take from vice the restrains of conscience. But the dangerous connection I formed was broken off by the accident of Delaserrés receiving orders to join his regiment, then quartered a Dunkirk. At his desire, I gave him the convoy as far as to a relations house in Picardy, where he was to spend a day or two on his way.

„I will introduce you," said he in a tone of pleasantry, because you will be a favourite; my cousin Santonges is as sober and precise as you were when I first found you.

„The good man, whom he thus characterised possessed indeed all those virtues of which the redicule of Delaserre had sometimes made me ashamed, but which it had never made me entirely cease to revere. In his family I regained the station which, in our dissipated society at Paris, I had lost. His example encouraged and

his precepts fortified my natural disposition to goodness; but his daughter, Emilia de Santonges was a more interesting assistant to it. After my experience of the few of her sex with whom we were acquainted in town, the native beauty, the unaffected manners of Emilia, were infinetely attractive.

Delaserre, however found them insipid and tiresome. He left his kinsman's the third morning after his arrival, promising, as soon as his regiment should be reviewed, to meet me in Paris. Except in Paris said he, we exist merely, but do not live. I found it very different.

I lived but in the presence of Emilia de Santonges. But why should I recall those days of purest felicity, or think of what my Emilia was! For not long after she was mine. In the winter they came to Paris, on accouut of her father's health, which was then rapidly on the decline. I attended him with that assiduity, which was due to his friendship, which the company of Emilia made more an indulgence than a duty. Our cares, aud the skill of his physicians, were fruitless. He died, and left his daughter to my friendship. It was then; that I first dared to hope for her love, that over the grave of her father I mingled my tears with Emilia's, and tremblingly

ventured to ask, if she thought me worthy of comforting her sorrows?

Emilia was too innocent for disguise, too honest for affectation. She gave her hand to my virtues (for then I was virtuous) to reward at the same time, and to confirm them. We retired to Santonges, where we enjoyed as much felicity as perhaps the lot of humanity will allow. My Emilias merit was equal to her happiness; and I may say without vanity, since it is now my shame, that the since wretched St. Hubert was then thought to deserve the blessings he enjoyed.

In this state of peaceful felicity we had lived something more than a year, when my Emilia found herself with child.

On that occasion my anxiety was such as a husband who dotes upon his wife may be supposed to feel. In consequence of that anxiety, I proposed our removing for some weeks to Paris, where she might have abler assistance, than our province could afford in those moments of danger, which she soon expected.

To this she objected with earnestness, from a variety of motives; but most of my neighbours applauded my resolution: and one, who was the

nephew of a farmer-general, and had purchased the estate on which his father had been a tenant, told me, the danger from their country accoucheurs was such, that no body, who could afford to go to Paris would think of trusting them. I was a little tender on the reproach of poverty, and absolutely determined for the journey. To induce my wife's consent, I had another pretext, being left executor to a friend, who had died in Paris, and had effects remaining there. Emilia at last consented, and we removed to town accordingly.

For some time I scarce ever left our Hotel: It was the same at which Emilia and her father had lodged when he came to Paris to die and leave her to my love. The recollection of those scenes, tender and interesting as they were, spread a sort of melancholy indulgence over our mutual society, by which the company of any third person could scarcely be brooked. My wife had some of those sad persages, which women of her sensibility often feel in the condition she was then in. All my attention and solicitude were excited to combat her fears.

„I shall not live," she would say, „to revisit Santonges: but my Henry will think of me there: In those woods in which we have so often

walked, by that brook to the fall of which we have listened together, and felt in silence what language, at least what mine, my Love could not speak." —

The anxiety of my Emilia was at last dissipated by her safe delivery of a boy: and on this object of a new kind of tenderness we gazed with inexpressible delight. Emilie suckled the infant herself, as well from the idea of duty and of pleasure intending it, as from the difficulty of finding in Paris a nurse to be trusted. We proposed returning to the country as soon as the reestablishment of her strength would permit: mean time, during her hours of rest, I generally went out to finish the business, which the trust of my deceased friend had devolved upon me. In passing through the Thuilleries, in one of those walks, I met my old companion Delaserre.

He embraced me with a degree of warmth, which I scarce expected from my knowledge of his disposition, or the length of time for which our correspondence had been broke off. He had heard, he said, accidentally of my being in town, but had sought me for several days in vain. In truth he was of all men one whom I was the most afraid of meeting.

I had heard in the country of his unbounded dissipation and extravagance: and there were so many stories to his prejudice, which were only not believed from an unwillingness to believe them in people whom the corruptions of the world had not familiarized to baseness; yet I found he still possessed a kind of superiority over my mind, which I was glad to excuse by forcing myself to think him less unworthy than he was reported.

After a variety of inquiries, and expressing his cordial satisfaction at the present happiness I enjoyed, he pressed me to spend that evening with him so earnestly, that though I had made it a sort of rule to be at home, I was ashamed to offer an apology, and agreed to meet him at the hour he appointed.

Our company consisted only of Delaserre himself, and two other officers one a good deal older than any of us, who had the cross of St. Louis, and the rank of Colonel, whom I thought the most agreeable men I had ever met with. The unwillingness with which I had left home, and the expectation of a very different sort of party where I was going, made me feel the present one doubly pleasant.

My spirits, which were rather low when I

went in, from that constraint I was prepared for, rose in proportion to the pleasantry around me and the perfect ease in which I found myself with this old officer, who had information, wit, sentiment, every thing I valued most, and every thing I least expected in a society selected by Delaserre. It was late before we parted; and at parting I received, not without pleasure, an invitation from the Colonel to sup with him the evening after.

The company at his house I found enlivened by his sister and a friend of hers, a widow, who though not a perfect beauty, had a countenance, that impressed one much more in her favour than mere beauty could. When silent, there was a certain softness in it infinitely bewitching; and when it was lightened up by the expression, which her conversation gave, it was equally attractive. We happened to be placed next each other.

Unused as I was to the little gallanteries of fashionable life, I rather wished than hoped to make myself agreable to her. She seemed however, interested in my attentions and conversation, and in hers I found myself flattered at the same time and delighted. We played, against the inclination of this Lady and me, and we won rather more than I wished. Had I been as rich as

Delaserre, I should have objected to the deepness of the stakes: but we were the only persons of the company, that seemed uneasy at our success, and we parted with the most cordial good humour. Madame de Trenville (that was the widow's name) smiling to the colonel asked him to take his revenge at her house, and said, with an air of equal modesty and frankness, that as I had been the partner of her success, she hoped for the honour of my company to take the chance of sharing a less favourable fortune.

At first my wife had expressed her satisfaction at my finding amusement in society, to relieve the duty of attending her. But when my absence grew very frequent, as indeed I was almost every day at Madame de Trenville's though her words continued the same she could not help expressing by her countenance her dissatisfaction at my absence. I perceived this at first with tenderness only, and next evening excused myself from keeping my engagement. But I found my wife's company not what it used to be; thoughtful, but afraid to trust one another with our thoughts, Emilia shewed her uneasiness in her looks, and I covered mine but ill with an assumed gaiety of appearance.

The day following Delaserre called, and saw

Emilia for the first time. He rallied me gently for breaking my last night appointment and told me of another which he had made for me, which my wife insisted of my keeping. Her cousin applauded her conduct, and joked on the good government of wives. Before I went out in the evening, I came to wish my Emilia good night. I thought I perceived a tear on her cheek, and would have staid but for the shame of not going. The company perceived my want of gaiety, and Delaserre was mery on the occasion. Even my friend the Colonel threw in a little raillery on the subject of marriage. 'Twas the first time I felt somewhat awkward at being the only married man of the party. We played deeper and sat later than formerly: but I was to shew myself not afraid of my wife, and objected to neither. I lost considerably, and returned home mortified and chagrined, I saw Emilia next morning, whose spirits were not high. Methought her looks reproached my conduct, and I was enough in the wrong to be angry that they did so. Delaserre came to take me to his house to dinner. He observed as we went, that Emilia looked ill.

„Going to the country will reestablish her," said I. —

„Do you leave Paris?" said he. —

„In a few days.“ —

„Had I such motives for remaining in it as you have.“: —

„What motives?“ —

„The attachment of such friends; but friendship is a cold word: the attachment of such a woman as de Trenville.“

I know not how I looked, but he pressed the subject no further: perhaps I was less offended, than I ought to have been.

We went to that Ladie's house after dinner. She was dressed most elegantly, and looked more beautiful, than ever I had seen her. The party was more numerous than usual, and there was more vivacity in it. The conversation turned upon my intention of leaving Paris; the ridicule of country-manners, of country-opinions, of the insipidity of country enjoyments, was kept up with infinite spirit by Delaserre and most of the younger members of the company. Madame de Trenville did not join in their mirth, and sometimes looked at me as if the subject was too serious for her to be merry on. I was half ashamed as half sorry, that I was going to the country; less uneasy than vain at the preference, that was shewn me.

I was a coward, however, in the wrong as well as in the wright, and fell upon an expedient to screen myself from a discovery, that might have saved me. I contrived to deceive my wife, and to conceal my visits to Madame de Trenville's, under the pretence of some perplexing incidents, that had arisen in the management of those affairs with which I was intrusted. Her mind was too pure for suspicion or for jealousy. It was easy even for a novice in falsehood like me, to deceive her. But I had an able assistent in Delaserre, who now resumed the ascendency over me he had formerly possessed, but with an attraction more powerful, from the infatuated attachment, which my vanity and weakness, as much as her art and beauty had made me conceive for Madame de Trenville.

It happened, that just at this time a young man arrived from our province, and brought letters for Emilia from a femal friend of her's in the neighbourhood of Santonges. He had been bred a miniature-painter, and came to town for improvement in his art. Emilia, who doted on her little boy, proposed to him to draw his picture in the innocent attitude of his sleep. The young painter was pleased with the idea, provided she would allow him to paint the child in her arms. This was to be concealed from me,

for the sake of surprising me with the picture when it should be finished.

That she might have a better opportunity of effecting this little concealment, Emilia would often hear, with a sort of satisfaction my engagements abroad, and encourage me to keep them, that the picture might advance in my absence.

She knew not what, during that absence, was my employment. The slave of vice and of profusion, I was violating my faith to her, in the arms of the most artful and worthless of women, and loosing the fortune, that should have supported my child and her's, to a set of cheats and villains.

Such was the snare, that Delaserre and his associates had drawn around me. It was covered with the appearance of love and generosity. De Trenville had art enough to make me believe, that she was every way the victim of her affection. My first great losses at play she pretended to reimburse from her own private fortune, and threw herself upon my honour, for relief from those distresses into which I had brought her.

After having exhausted all the money I possessed and all my credit could command, I would

have stopped short of ruin; but when I thought of returning in disgrace and poverty to the place I had left respected and happy, I had not resolution enough to retreat. I took refuge in desparation, mortgaged the remains of my estate, and staked the produce to recover what I had lost or to lose myself. The event was such as might have heen expected.

After the dizzy horror of my situation, had left me power to think, I hurried to Madame de Trenville's. She gave me such a reception as suited one, who was no longer worth the deceiving. Conviction of her falsehood, and of that ruin to which she had employed to lead me, flashed upon my mind. I left her with execrations, which she received with the coolness of hardned vice, of experienced seduction. I rushed from her house, I knew not wither.

My steps involuntarily led me home. At my own door I stopped, as if it had been death to enter. I ran out of the street, and gaining an obscure hotel in a distant part of the town, wrote a few distracted lines, acquainting Emilia of my folly and of my crimes; that I meant immediately to leave France, and not return till my penitence should wipe out my offences, and my industry repair that ruin in which I had involved

her. I recommended her and my child to my mother's care, and to the protection of that heaven, which she had never offended.

Having sent this I left Paris on the instant, and had walked severable miles from town before it was light. At sun-rise a stagecoach overtook me. 'Twas going on the road to Brest. I entered it without arranging any future plan, and sat in sullen and gloomy silence in the corner of the carriage. That day and next night I went on mechanically, with several other passangers regardless of food and incapable of rest.

But the second day I found my strength fail, and when we stopped in the evening, I fell down in a faint in the passage of the inn. I was put to bed, it seems and lay for mor than a week in the stupefaction of a low fever.

A charitable brother of that order to which I now belong, who happened to be in the inn, attended me with the greatest care and humanity; and when I began to recover, the good old man ministered to my soul as he had done to my body, that assistance and consolation he easily discovered it to need. By his tender assiduities I was now so far recruited as to be able to breath the fresh air at the window of a little parlour.

As I sat there one morning, the same stage-coach in which I had arrived, stopped at the door of the inn, when I saw alight out of it the young painter, who had been recommended to us at Paris. The sight overpowerd my weakness and I fell lifeless from my seat.

The incident brought several people into the room and amongst others tbe young man himself. When they had restored me to sense. I had recollection enough to desire him to remain with me alone. It was some time before he recognized me: when he did, with horor in his aspect, after much hesitation, and the most solemn entreaty from me, he told me the dreadful sequel of my misfortunes. My wife and child were no more. The shock which my letter gave, the state of weakness she was then in, which she had no strength to support. The effects were a fever, delirium, and death.

Her infant perished with her. In the interval reason preceding her death she called him to her bed-side; gave him the picture he had drawn; and with her last breath charged him, if ever he could find me out, to deliver that and her forgivness to me. He put it into my hand and I know not how I survived. Perhaps it was owing to the outworn state in which my disease had

left me. My heart was too weak to burst and there was a sort of palsy on my mind that seemed insensible to its calamities. By that holy man, who had once before saved me from death, I was placed in the convent of Sct. Benedict. where, except one melancholy journey to where they had laid my Emilia and my boy, I have ever since remained. But it is not by sufferings alone that heaven is reconciled; I endeavour, by works of charity and beneficence to make my being not hateful in his sight.

Inefficacy of guilty pleasures to confer happiness: Memoirs of a Man of Title.

Sir Edward, was a character much beyond that which distinguishes the generality of English travellers of fortune. (His story was known to some of his contrymen who then resided in Italy.) He had been first abroad at an early period of life, soon after the death of his father had left him master of a very large estate, which he had

the good fortune to inherit, and all the inclination natural to youth to enjoy. Though always sumptuous, and sometimes profuse, he was observed never to be ridiculous in his expences; and though he was now and then talked of as a man of pleasure and dissipation, he always left behind him more instances of beneficence than irregularity. For that respect and esteem in which his character, amidst all his little errors, was generally held, he was supposed a good beal indebted to the society of a gentleman, who had been his companion at the university, and now attended him rather as a friend, than a tutor. This gentleman was unfortunately, seized at Marseilles with a lingering disorder, for which he was under the necessity of taking a sea voyage, leaving Sir Edward to prosecute the remaining part of his intended tour alone.

Descending one day into one of the ruggedness of the road, Sir Edward, with a prejudice natural to his country, preferred the conveyance of an English h u n t e r to that of an Italian mule, his horse unlukily made a false step and fell with his rider to the ground, from which Sir Edward was lifted by his servants with scarce any signes of life. They convyed him on a litter to the nearest house, which happened to be the dwelling of a peasant, rather above the common rank, be-

fore whose door some of his neighhours were assembled at a scene of rural merriment. The compassion natural to his situation was excited in all; but the owner of the mansion, whose name was Venoni, was particularly moved with it. He applied himself immediately to the care of the stranger, and, with the assistance of his daughter, who had left the dance she was engaged in, with great marks of agitation, soon restored Sir Edward to sense of life. Venoni possessed some little skill in surgery, and his daughter produced a book of receipts in medicine. Sir Edward, after being blooded, was put to bed, and tended with every possible care by his host and his family. A considerable degree of fever was the consequence of his accident; but after some days it abated; and, in little more than a week, he was able to join in the society of Venoni and his daughter.

He could not help expressing some surprise at the appearance of refinement in the conversation of the latter, much beyond what her situation seemed likely to confer. Her father accounted for it. She had received her education in the house of a lady, who happened to pass through the wally and to take shelter in Venoni's cottage the night of her birth. „When her mother died," said he,“ the signora whose name, at her desire, we had given the child took her home to her own

house; there she was tought many things, of which there is no need here; yet she is not so proud of her learning as to leave her father in his old age; and I hope soon to have her settled near me for life. —

But Sir Edward had now an opportunity of knowing Louise better, than from the description of her father. Music and painting, in both of which arts she was a tolerable proficient, Sir Edward had studied with success. Louisa felt a sort of pleasure from her drawings, which they had never given her before, when they were praised by Sir Edward and the family concerts of Venoni were very different from what they had formerly been, when once his guest was so far recovered as to be able to join in them. The flute of Venoni excelled all the other music of the vally; his daughter's lute was much beyond it; Sir Edward's violin was finer than either. But his conversation with Louisa — it was that of a superior order of beings! science, taste sentiment! it was long since Louisa had heard these sounds; amidst the ignorance of the vally, it was luxnry to hear them; from Sir Edward, who was one of the most engaging figures, they were doubly delightful. In his countenance, there was always an expression animated and interesting, his sickness had overcome somewhat af the first but greatly added to the power of the latter.

Louisa's was no less captivating and Sir Edward had not seen it so long without emotion. During his illness he thought this emotion but gratitude; and, when it first grew warmer, he checked it, from the thought of her situation and of the debt he owed her.

But the struggle was too ineffectual to overcome; and of consequence increased his passion. There was but one way in which the pride of Sir Edward allowed of its being gratified. He sometimes thought of this as a base and unworthy one; but he was the fool of words, which he had often despised, the slave of manners he had often condemned. He at last compromised matters with himself; he resolved, if he could, to think no more of Louisa. at any rate, to think no more of the ties of gratitude, or the restrains of virtue. Louisa, who trusted to both, now communicated to Sir Edward an important secret. It was at the close of a piece of music, which they had been playing in the absence of her father. She took up her lute, and touched a wild melancholy air, which she had composed to the memory of her mother. „That said she“ nobody ever heard except my father; I play it sometimes, when I am alone, and in low spirits. I don't know how I came to think of it now; yet I have some reason to be sad.“ Sir Edward pressed to now the cause;

after some hesitation she told it all. Her father had fixed on the son of a neighbour, rich in possessions, but rude in manners, for her husband. Againt this match she had always protested as strongly, as a sense of duty, and the mildness of her nature, would allow but Venoni was obstinately bent on the match, and she was wretched from the thought of it. — To mary, where one cannot love, — to marry such a man Sir Edward!" — It was an opportunity beyond his power of resistance. Sir Edward pressed her hand; said it would be profanation to think of such a marriage; praised her beauty, extolled her virtues; and concluded, by swearing, that he adored her. She heard him with unsuspecting pleasure, which her blushes could ill conceal.

Sir Edward improved the favourable moment; talked of the ardency of his passion, the insignificancy of ceremonies and forms, the inefficacy of legale engagements, the eternal duration of those dictated by love; and in fine urged her going off with him, to crowm both their days with happiness. Louisa started at that proposal. She would have reproached him, but her heart was not made for it; she could only weep.

They were interrupted by the arrival of her father with his intended son in law. He was just

such a man as Louisa had represented him, coarse, vulgar and ignorant. But Venoni, though much above his neighbour in every think but riches, looked on him, as poorer men often look on the wealthy, and discovered none of his imperfections. He took his daughter aside told her he had brought her future husband, and that he intended they should be married in a week at farthest.

Next morning Louisa was indisposed, and kept her chamber. Sir Edward was now perfectly recovered. He was engaged to go out with Venoni, but before his departure, he took up his violin, and touched a few plaintive notes on it. They were heard by Louisa. In the evening she wandered forth to indulge her sorrows alone. She had reached a sequesterd spot, where some poplars formed a thiket, on the banks of a little stream that watered the vally. A nightingale was perched on one of them, and had already began its accustomed song. Louisa sat down on a withered stump leaning her cheek upon her hand. After a little while, the bird was scared from its perch and flirted from the thicket. Louisa rose from the ground and burst into tears! She turned and beheld Sir Edward. His countenance had much of its former languor; and when he took her hand, he cast on the earth a melancholy look, and seemed unable to speak his feelings.

„Are you not well, Sir E d w a r d?" said Louisa with a voice faint and broken — I am ill indeed said he, „but my illness is of the mind. L o u i s a cannot cure me of that. I am wretched; but I deserve to be so. I have broken every law of hospitality, and every obligation of gratitude. I have dared to wish for happiness, and to speak what I wished, though it wounded the heart of my dearest benefactress — but I will make a severe expiation. This moment I leave you L o u i s a! I go to be wretched; but you may be happy, happy in your duty to a father, happy it may be in the arms of a husband, whom the possession of such a wife may teach refinement and sensibility. — I go to my native country, to hurry through scenes of irksome business or tasteless amusement; that I may if possible, procure a sort of half oblivion of that happiness, which I have left behind, a listless endurance of life, which I once dream'd might be made delightful with L o u i s a." Tears were the only answer she could give. Sir E d w a r d's servant appeared, with a carriage ready for his departure. He took from his pocket two pictures; one he had drawn of L o u i s a, he had fastned round his neck, and kissing it with rapture, hid it in his bosom. The other he held out in a hestitating manner. „This said he, if Louisa will accept of it, may sometimes put her in mind of him, who once offended, who can never cease

to adore her. She may look on it, perhaps, after the original is no more; when this heart shall have forgot to love and cease to be wretched.

Louisa was at last overcome. Her face was first pale as death; then suddenly it was crossed, with a crimson blush. „Oh! Sir Edward! said she" What — what would you have me do; — He eagerly seized her hand, and led her reluctant, to the carriage. They entered it, and driving off with furious speed, were soon out of sight of those hills, which pastured the flocks of the unfortunate Venoni.

The virtue of Louisa was vanquished but her sense of virtue was not overcome. — Neither the vows of eternal fidelity of her seducer, nor the constant and respectful attention which he paid her during a hurried journey to England, could allay that anguish, which she suffered at the recollection of her past and the thoughts of her present situation.

Sir Edward felt strongly the power of her beauty and of her grief. His heart was not made for that part, which, it is probable he thought that it could have performed: it was still subject to remorse to compassion, and to love. This emotions, perhaps, he might soon have overcome, had they been met by vulgar violence or reproaches; but

the quict and unupbraiding sorrows of Louisa nourished those feelings of tenderness and attachment. She never mentioned her wrongs in words: sometimes a few starting tears would speak them; and, when time had given her a little more composure, her lute discoursed melancholy music.

On their arrival in England, Sir Edward carried Louisa to his seat in the country. There she was treated with all the observance of a wife; and, had she chosen it, might have commanded more than the ordinary splendour of one. But she would not allow the indulgence of Sir Edward to blazon with equipage, and show that state, which she wished always to hide and, if possible, to forget. Her books and her music was her only pleasures; if pleasures they could be called, that served but to alleviate misery; and to blunt, for a while the pangs of contrition.

These were deeply aggravated by the recollection of her father; a father left in his own misfortunes and his daughters disgrace. Sir Edward was too generous not to think of providing for Venoni. He meant to make some atonement for the injury he had done him, by that cruel bounty which is reparation only to the base, but to the honest is insult. He had not, however, an opportunity of accomplishing his purposs. He

learned that Venoni soon after his daughter's elopement removed from his former place of residence and, as his neiurghbos reported, had died in one of the villages of Savoy. His daughter felt this with anguish the most poignant, and her affliction, for a while, refused consolation. Sir Edward's whole tenderness and attention were called forth to mitigate her grief; and, after its first transports have subsided, he carried her to London, in hopes that objects new to her, and commonly attractive to all, might contribute to remove it.

With a man possessed of feelings like Sir Edward's, the affliction of Louisa gave a certain respect to his attentions. He hired her a house separate from his own, and treated her with all the delicacy of the purest attachment. But his solicitude to comfort and amuse her was not attended with success. She felt all the horrors of that guilt, which she now considered as not only the ruin of herself, but the murderer of her father. In London Sir Edward found his sister, who had married a man of great fortune and high fashion. He had married her, because she was a fine woman, and admired by fine men; she had married him, because he was the wealthiest of her suitors. They lived, as is common to people in such a situation, necessitous with a princely revenue, and very wretched amidst perpetual gaity.

This scene was so foreign from the idea Sir Edward had formed of the reception his country und friends, were to afford him, that he found a constant source of disgust in the society of his equals. In their conversation fantastic not refined, their ideas were frivolous, and their knowledge shallow; and that with all the pride of birth and insolence of station, their principles were mean and their minds ignoble. In their pretentend attachments, he discovered only designes of selfishness; and their pleasures, he experienced were as falacious as their friendships.

In the society of Louisa he found sensibility and truth; her's was the only heart, that seemed interested in his wellfare; she saw the return of virtue in Sir Edward and felt the friendship, which he shewed her. Sometimes, when she perceived him sorrowful, her lute would leave its melancholy for lively airs, and her countenance assume a gaiety it was not formed to wear. But her heart was breaking with that anguish, which generousity endeavoured to conceal from him; her frame, too delicate for the struggle with her feelings, seemed to yield to their force; her rest forsook her; the colour faded in her cheek; the lustre of her eyes grew dim.

Sir Edward saw these symptomes of decay with

the deepest remorse. Often did he curse those false ideas of pleasure which had led him to consider the ruin of an artless girl, who loved and trusted him, as an object, which is luxury to attain, and to accomplish. Often did he wish to blut out from his life a few guilty months, to be again restored to an opportunity of giving happiness to that family, whose unsuspecting kindness he had repaid with the treachery of a robber, and the cruelty of an assassin.

One evening, while he sat in a little parlour with Louisa, his mind alternately agitated and softened with this impression, a hand-organ, of a remarkables weet [tone, was heard in the street. Louisa laid aside her lute, and listened; the airs it played were those of her native country: a few tears, which she endeavoured to hide, stole from her on hearing them. Sir Edward ordered a servant to fetch the organist into the room: he was brought in accordingly, and seated at the door of the appartment.

He played one or two sprightly tunes to which Louisa had often danced in her infancy; she gave herself up to the recollection, and her tears flowed without controul. Suddenly the musician changing the stop, introduced a little melancholy air of a wild and plaintive kind. — Louisa star-

ted from her seat, and rushed up to the stranger. — He threw off a tattered coat, and black patch. It was her father! — She would have sprung to embrace him; he turned aside for a few moments and would not receive her into his arms. But natur at last overcame his resentment; he burst into tears, and pressed to his bosom his long-lost daughter.

Sir Edward stood fixed in astonishment and confusion. — „I come not to upbraid you," said Venoni; „I am a poor weak, old man, unable for upbraidings; I am come but to find my child, to forgive her and to die! When you saw us first, Sir Edward, we were not thus. You found us virtuous and happy; we danced and we sung; and there was not a sad heart in the valley where we dwelt. Yet we left our dancing, our songs and our cheerfulness; you were distressed, and we pitied you. Since that day the pipe has never been heard in Venoni's fields: grief and sickness have almost brought him to the grave: and his neighbours, who loved and pitted him have been cheerful no more. Yet, methinks, though you robbed us of happiness you are not happy; — else why that dejected look, which succided all the grandeur around you, I saw you wear, and those tears which, under all the gaudiness apparel, I saw that poor deluded girl shed;

„But she shall shed no more,“ cried Sir Edward „you shall be happy, and I shall be just. Forgive, my venerable friend, the injuries which I have done thee; forgive me my Louisa, for rating your excellence at a price so mean. I have seen those high born femals to which my rank might have allied me; I am ashamed of their vices, and sik of their follies. Profligate in their hearts, amidst affected purity they are slaves to pleasure; without the sincerity of passion; and with the name of honour, are insensible to the feelings of virtue. You, my Louisa; — but I will not call up recollections, that might render me less worthy of your future esteem. — Continue to love your Edward; but a few hours, and you shall add the tittle to the affections of a wife; let the care and tenderness of a husband bring back its peace to your mind and its bloom to your cheek. We will leave for a while the wonder and the envy of the fashionable circle here. We will restore your father to his native home; under that roof I shall once more be happy; happy without allay, because I shall deserve my happiness. Again shall the pipe and the dance gladden the valley and innocence and peace beam-on the Cottage of Venoni.

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